

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

THE NEW EDUCATION SCHEME.

To Lord John Russell belongs something more than the merit of good intentions. If he be an unpractised diplomatist, unskilled in the chicanery which is taught and practised in foreign Embassies, and liable to be overreached by the wily adepts of that great Bamboozledom, the *corps diplomatique* of Europe, he is a man who in his time has done noble work in the cause of the people. There is a candid honesty about him, which, though it may unfit him to cope with the Nestors of Intrigue, gives him strength as a philosophic statesman. If, during his long and brilliant career, his performances have fallen short of his attempts, the fault lies not so much with him as with the opposition he has had to encounter, and—worse than all—with the potency of that great *vis inertia* of popular apathy with which it is the fate of all men who are wiser than their

time to be beset or conquered. His last attempt to benefit his country by the introduction of his resolutions on the subject of the Education of the People cannot, whatever their immediate fate, be altogether unfruitful. It is necessary that from year to year—even from day to day—the voices of those who can speak with power and authority, should be raised in behalf of the children of England, in order that all may be made sharers in the civilisation of our time, and that millions of citizens may not be suffered to reach adolescence and maturity without receiving the education which there seems to be the will, but not the machinery, to bestow upon them. Among these voices—including as they do those of the most thoughtful, the most earnest, the most able, and the most humane and enlightened men and women of the age—that of Lord John Russell has long been pre-eminent for the clearness of its tone, and the eloquence of its reasoning.

We shall not recapitulate either the statistics or the arguments of his Lordship, or of those who followed him in the important discussion of last week; but, in the little we shall have to say upon the subject, shall confine ourselves to the assertions of those excellent persons—those good friends of Popular Education—who are too painfully alive to the difficulties caused by religious differences, to labour zealously in any project which shall either conciliate or override opposition. Lord John Russell is himself among the number; and is not yet so bold in the cause as we venture to predict that he will be, if life and health are spared him to fight this good fight. These good but timid friends of the poor trust entirely to voluntary effort to do what is needed. They point with pride to the schools which have been built, to the masters and mistresses who have been appointed—to the hundreds of thousands of infants of tender years who have been brought within the circle of their kindly and



INTERIOR OF THE REDAN.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERTSON.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



Christian operations. When it is alleged that England is either hostile or indifferent to public education, they point to the statistics which prove that, although there are three millions of children between the ages of five and fifteen—(as stated by Lord John Russell on the authority of the returns prepared by Mr. Horace Mann for the Census of 1851)—who do not attend school, there are, nevertheless, two millions between those ages who are entered on the school books and receive instruction. They say that every year the number of scholars increases; that every year it will continue to increase. They assert that public attention is alive, that good men and rich men are bestirring themselves, that Coercion is impossible in this matter, and that Persuasion is doing all that can reasonably be expected in such a country as this, where there is perfect freedom of conscience and an almost infinite diversity of religious and political opinion. Far be it from us, or from any friend of Education, to undervalue these labours; but in such a cause we must not allow our judgment to be warped by deceptive arithmetic. While not one-half of those children who ought to be receiving school instruction are receiving it, voluntary effort, laudable and righteous as it may be, cannot be allowed to discourage or supersede the exertions of other and more active agencies. If we investigate more closely, and ask what kind of education Voluntaryism is able to bestow upon the 2,000,000 of children whom it has gathered into the fold, the answer is not satisfactory. A very large proportion of the two millions only attend school upon the Sunday. Better, infinitely better, is Sunday-school education than none; but will any sincere advocate of education put his hand upon his heart and say that, as a friend of the children, or of his country, he ought to be satisfied with Sunday-school teaching. The child requires to be taught to write; but writing is forbidden in the Sunday-school. It requires to be taught arithmetic; but arithmetic is secular, and profane in the estimation of Sunday-school teachers. It requires to know something of geography—of the world in which it lives and moves, and has to act its part; but the Sunday-school teacher forbids the child to study geography on the only day which it has at command. He teaches it all about Jerusalem, about the Brook Kedron, about the Dead Sea, about Mount Ararat or Sinai; but London, Paris, New York, Constantinople, St. Petersburg, are not to be mentioned. The Thames, the Mississippi, the Danube, and the Volga, are unknown; and all the mighty interests of European civilisation—all the triumphs of our Arts—of our Arms—of our Literature—of our Commerce—are as untaught in Sunday schools as if English infants were Japanese, or naked cannibals in New Zealand. It is but to delude ourselves with statistics, and to shut our eyes against the truth, to assert that this is Education. The time has gone by when we can frame excuses for our apathy, and sit down contented to say, "Let us alone; voluntary exertion is combating the monster evil of Popular Ignorance; its progress may be slow, but it is sure; and the day will come, without the aid of legislation, when every English child shall be fitted by sound education to play his proper part in this world, and to become a free and enlightened citizen of a free and a religious State." It is of no use to deceive ourselves. Voluntary effort cannot overtake the evil. The difficulties that beset the question must not be considered to be insurmountable. They must be met and combated; and, perhaps, like other giants or lions that block the way of timid men, they may prove to be less substantial than they appear. Sectarianism has been far too much flattered and encouraged in all the discussions that have taken place on this subject; and the time has come when true statesmanship must nerve itself to a work which may be inconvenient and arduous, but which is essentially Christian and patriotic.

Would it not be well if the House of Commons would affirm and promulgate a great principle in this matter? Our English law asserts that it is the right of every child born in England to its physical life, and to the food that shall maintain that life. A father may not wilfully starve his child. If he do, it is murder. If he cannot feed it, the parish must; and if the parish refuses, it is murder also. Why should we not assert a similar principle with regard to the intellectual life? The means of instruction are as abundant in England as the means of subsistence; and, if it be once decreed that it is as contrary to the English law to starve a child's mind and soul as to starve its body, a vast superstructure might be raised on the foundation of the principle. England cannot, and will not, afford to let her children die of hunger in the streets. Can she, or ought she to, afford to let them die morally and intellectually?

INTERIOR OF THE REDAN, FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERTSON.

As a memorial of the War we engrave, from Mr. Robertson's very effective photograph, the interior of the hotly-contested work at Sebastopol known as the Redan, two Plans of which appeared at pp. 511 and 707 of the volume of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS last completed. Other views of the Storming and the Explosion of the Work, with the episode of the great struggle, will be found in the above volume; and the present Interior View completes our illustration of this important fortification. It has more than once been described by our own Correspondent, in his narrative of the war, as well as from other sources. The following details are from the work recently published under the title of "Inside Sebastopol," which has become popular from the graphic minuteness with which it describes the engineering works:

Descending from Cathcart's Hill, we struck into the Woronoff road, whereon we trotted jauntily, until we brought the Great Redan in view. The Redan is a portion of a line of natural mounds, which has its highest elevation in the Malakoff; and it is that portion which lies between two ravines (the Woronoff-road ravine and the Karabellain ravine) that run from the Camp plateau down into the city. The fortifications connect these two ravines by a line of earthworks.

Small things are made great by events. The Cydnus, the Granichus, the Issus, and the Tchernaya, are ridiculously small rivulets, yet they are bigger in men's minds than the St. Lawrence or the Mississippi. Primrose Hill and Barrow Hill are infinitely higher than the Redan or even the Malakoff; and our old friend Holborn-hill would be quite as high, and nearly as steep, as the latter, seen from the besiegers' point of view. The Redan is a stony mound, the last undulation citywards of the table-land on which the besiegers sat down. It overlooks the descent down into the harbour of Sebastopol. Approaching it, as we did from the south side, it appeared a very gentle elevation; but there were abundant evidences that it was an elevation very difficult to reach. For many hundred yards before we arrived at the foot of it the earth was scarred with trenches fortified with gabions, with heavy guns couched between them, allowing us just room to pass between their platforms and the rock.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE French papers give at full length the ceremonies to be observed on the occasion of the birth of the expected Prince with a minuteness that leaves no ground for mistake—supposing it be, indeed, a Prince—but making no provision whatever for such modifications as must necessarily be introduced in the event of the birth of a Princess. The Empress's health and looks continue to be wonderfully good, and she goes about as usual. It appears that, with the want of punctuality habitual in this country, certain details are yet required to complete the magnificent cradle we lately described, the curtains of point d'Alemon and portions of the woodwork being yet in progress. Magnificent preparations are being made for the illuminations to take place on this occasion, and a variety of fêtes are to be held in celebration of it.

The widow of Admiral Brutus is officially announced as the future *gouvernante* of the heir to the Imperial throne, with two *sous-gouvernantes* under her.

The *layette* or outfit of the Imperial infant is being daily visited by such crowds that only a certain number of persons are admitted at a time, and the rest are ranged in a line, like the carriages at a fête. It is said that the cost of the whole amounts to £60,000; the baptismal robe alone has cost £1000. The costume of the nurse forms part of the exhibition; it is that of the peasants of her province, but composed of rich and costly materials. The Pope has accepted the office of godfather, but there is no talk of his coming, as was reported, to Paris, to perform the baptismal ceremony, and we are assured that this possibility was never contemplated or requested by the Emperor. The christening (the infant will be baptised within a day or two of its birth) will not, we believe, take place before May or June, when the Legate charged by the Pope to perform the solemnity will be received in Paris with great pomp. The Queen of Sweden, daughter of Eugène Beauharnais, brother of the Queen Hortense, and consequently first cousin of the Emperor, is to be godmother.

The alarming illness of the Prince Jerome, from a violent attack of inflammation of the chest, is a cause of most serious apprehension to the Imperial family. The malady having, after the first day or two, taken a favourable turn, this uneasiness subsided; but the reappearance of the dangerous symptoms have renewed it. The Emperor and Empress have both visited the invalid. The Prince Napoleon hardly stirs from his room, where the Princess Mathilde also remains the greater part of the day.

The celebrated artist, Ary Scheffer, has just put the finishing touches to a portrait for which Mr. Dickens, during the intervals of his active literary labours, has been giving sittings through the winter. The work is worthy of the painter and of the sitter: nothing can be happier than the likeness; the remarkable expression of the original is seized with a vigour and a reality that are most striking; and, apart from these being a little too much of a coffee tint throughout the work, we can see no ground for aught but the most favourable criticism.

A project exists at present for making the foundling children of France an element for the colonisation of Algeria. It appears that the report mentioned in our last week's letter of creating in this colony a viceroyalty for Prince Napoleon is at least premature. To establish this it is first necessary that the Imperial Infant be a boy, and that his succession to the throne of Algeria be assured. The Prince talks of an excursion in the course of the summer to Norway and Sweden.

A great stir has been excited in the fashionable world by a sermon preached at St. Sulpice, by the Abbé Combalat, censuring in the most violent and unmeasured terms the extravagance of feminine attire in the present day. The Abbé has even gone so far as to apply a term seldom addressed to ears polite to such of his fair parishioners as indulge to the full extent in the ruling mania. The Abbé Ratisbonne, in a subsequent sermon, has endeavoured somewhat to soften the effect of the vehemence of this censure; but, whatever offence may be taken at the terms in which M. Combalot's zeal has clothed itself, no reasonable person can object to the subject of his discourse. Perhaps at no period has the insane rage for extravagance in toilet, extravagance both as to expense and as to effect, been carried to the same degree as at present. Women of less than moderate fortunes appear now attired in a style that double their means would but justify the cost of. Who pays for this, or who suffers by the nonpayment, are questions that would reveal many painful and some disgraceful secrets.

Active measures are going on for the formation of new regiments of the Imperial Guard. Orders are given that the men for this select body shall be chosen equally from all the regiments in the army without distinction, thus avoiding the jealousies which are otherwise certain to occur.

The project of another new boulevard, on the left bank of the Seine this time, is talked of. This opening is intended to begin at the Chamber of Deputies, to proceed to the Luxembourg, and thence to the Jardin des Plantes. The scheme is, however, so enormous, and must entail such immense expense, that it will require no small degree of consideration ere it be ventured upon.

The students condemned to various degrees of punishment for the troubles on the occasion of M. Nisard's lectures have had their penalties reduced in severity. Among those engaged in these disturbances was the son of Madame Pauline Roland, whose death in exile in Algeria caused so strong and so painful a sensation. The personal circumstances that in this, as in some other instances, created so powerful a feeling among the student class form a certain excuse for these ebullitions; but none whatever can be found for the unmanly and disgraceful manifestations that on a late occasion took place at the Odéon on the appearance of a certain illustrious personage, whose sex and position ought to have proved an abundant protection against such outrages.

It has been necessary to adopt the strictest surveillance and the most active measures to expel from the Bourse the female speculators in male attire who, urged by the activity caused in the movement of affairs by the immediate prospects of peace, have succeeded in penetrating into the building.

A new report states that Mdlle. Rachel is about to enter into the marriage state with a rich financier; the rumour, however, is generally regarded with the same degree of faith as that accorded to her last appearance. The appearance of Grisi in "Norma" has been hailed with vehement applause—genuine applause, with which the *claque* has had nothing to do. Lafontaine, one of the cariatides of the Gymnase, joins the troupe of the Théâtre Français. The former theatre is to give Mdlle. George Sand's "Franoise;" the latter her "Comme il vous plaira."

THE GREAT KUSTENDJEH CANAL.—Mr. Forbes Campbell, who proceeded to Constantinople in July last, as the representative of Mr. Thomas Wilson, of London, for the purpose of obtaining, in conjunction with the Count de Morny and M. de Breda, the concession of the Kustendjeh Canal, arrived at Vienna a few days ago on his way back to England. The firman which, as already stated, the Porte has granted for this affair, contains a privilege highly advantageous to European commerce, and one which surpasses the provisions of the treaty of commerce (of 1838) now in force between Great Britain and Turkey. Under Art. III. of that treaty, three per cent. duty is levied upon all foreign goods, warehoused in Turkish ports, whereas Art. VII. of the Canal Concession "authorises the establishment of a free entrepôt at both extremities of the canal, and stipulates that grain and all other goods may be stored, re-exported, and transhipped, and may be carried through the canal without being subjected to any duty or imposition whatever." In token of his satisfaction the Sultan, has, we understand, conferred on Mr. Campbell the order of the Medjidie; and the Sublime Porte has further accorded a separate concession, with a grant of land, for the establishment of an entrepôt and warehouses within the Golden Horn. This will be an immense boon to the shipping interests of all nations.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The latest despatches from the Crimea come no further down than the 28th ult., when the news had arrived at the English Camp of the armistice having been concluded. The Russians appear to have had the news first, by telegraph from St. Petersburg. On the morning of the 28th ult., a boat bearing a flag of truce put off from the north side of the harbour, and was met half-way across by one from the French. The Russians brought a communication of the armistice from General Liéder; and the mail from Constantinople, which arrived the same day, brought its confirmation to the Allies. The English troops were generally well pleased that the suspension of arms is to be only until the 31st of March. Previously to that date little could be done in the way of military operations. Meanwhile, and as if to celebrate the armistice, the so-called White Buildings were blown up on the afternoon of the 28th ult.

The health of the English army continues highly satisfactory. That of the French soldiers is not so good, and the Russians are said to be suffering greatly from disease. A letter from St. Petersburg of the 3rd, in the *Débats*, says:—

Mournful accounts are constantly arriving from the Crimea, where epidemic diseases appear to be committing as many ravages as ever. Typhus fever has recently carried off many young men who are serving as volunteers in the Crimea, and who were not well prepared for supporting the fatigues which they have had to encounter. A great number of medical men, many of them foreigners, have also fallen victim to this malady. It is said that the ranks of the army have been so thinned by disease that, even should peace be concluded, it will be necessary to keep all the militia, in order to fill up the blanks, so as to maintain the army even on a peace footing.

THE FLYING SQUADRON IN THE BALTIC.

The latest accounts from Hamburg state that the flying squadron has proceeded on to the further part of the Baltic, and probably may extend its visit to the Gulf of Finland if not prevented by the ice, large quantities of which are floating about at a considerable distance from the coast, thereby rendering any passage for the vessels extremely dangerous.

There was a rumour that several Russian war-vessels had left Sveaborg, and that the Grand Duke Constantine intended to have a fight with the English in the neighbourhood of Sveaborg or Cronstadt, preferring to run the risk of a defeat to prolonging the inaction of the naval forces of Russia for another year.

Later intelligence, however, contradicts the fact of the Russian vessels having ventured out.

AMERICA.

The royal mail-steamer *Canada*, which left Boston on the 27th, arrived at Liverpool on Monday last. Up to the time of her leaving Halifax, on the 28th, no tidings of the *Pacific* had been received.

In the United States' Senate, up to the 24th ult., the proceedings were of an unimportant character. On the 25th Mr. Mason submitted a resolution requesting the President, if not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to the Senate all the correspondence which may have taken place with this Government and that of Great Britain regarding the enlistment of soldiers in the United States to serve in the British army, accompanied by such evidence and documents as the President may deem proper, to show the connection of the agents or officers of the British Government with this violation of our laws and national rights. Mr. Mason said the statement of Lord Clarendon in the British Parliament in regard to this matter had recently appeared in the English papers, and unless the American side of the argument were likewise made known the community would be misled. It was, therefore, important that all the correspondence should at once be made public. Mr. Cass not only agreed heartily with every word which Mr. Mason uttered, but would go further than he had. He (Mr. Cass) would not hesitate to say he never saw a statement so utterly contrary to fact as that of Lord Clarendon. He showed, from the evidence on the trial of the British agents for violating the neutrality laws, that the complicity of the British Government could not be successfully denied. Mr. Cass considered that the paying the passage of men to Canada, and then enlisting them, was a culpable violation of our neutrality laws. Mr. Chittenden thought the British Government had made all the apology that could be expected of it when it acknowledged its error, declared it unintentional, and promised that it should not again occur. He understood that, as soon as the British Government was apprised of the dissatisfaction of this Government on account of the recruiting operations, the work was promptly desisted from. This was the highest satisfaction for such an injury, and no further apology ought to be demanded. Mr. Mason said that, whatever might have been the statements made across the water, no atonement had been offered by the British Government for its violation of our neutrality laws. After some discussion Mr. Mason's resolution was adopted.

On the 26th Mr. Bell, of Tennessee, spoke on Central American affairs. He did not apprehend that war would ensue unless those controlling the Governments of England and America lost their reason. The Senate shortly afterwards adjourned.

The *New York Journal of Commerce*, in its Washington letter of the 23rd ult., says:—

The despatches received to-day from Mr. Buchanan are of no particular importance, except so far as this, that they show that everything in relation to our affairs is *in statu quo*. If our Central American dispute is to be submitted to an arbitration, and if there should be any hesitation as to the choice of an umpire, I would commend both Governments to the arbitration of that independent if not sovereign power, the *London Times*, whose views on the subject appear to be based rather on common sense than on prejudice. Whatever may be the historical associations, it is very evident that sooner or later Great Britain must relinquish territorial claims to any part of Central America, that this pathway towards possessions on the Pacific will be Americanised, and that the presence of British authority there will be a continual source of irritations and collision. As to the enlistment case, it is to be hoped that our Government will be content, as Congress and the people are, with the disclaimer already made by the British Government of any intention to infringe upon our laws, and of their prompt decision to shut up their recruiting depôts.

The Washington correspondent of the *Boston Courier* writes, on the 25th, as follows:—

It is understood this evening that Mr. Crampton will be dismissed; in that case intercourse between England and the United States will be suspended, as England will, as soon as she learns that her Minister has been dismissed, also refuse to receive our Minister. Thus there will be no diplomatic intercourse for some time at least between the countries until there is an amicable settlement of our difficulties.

On the 26th the same writer observes:—

That the immense excitement caused by the telegraphic despatch of the news by the steamers *Atlantic* and *Asia* on Sunday last is allayed by the assurance that there is nothing in the Government despatches since received calculated to diminish the hope that our differences with England may be pacifically arranged, although our relations with that country are not materially changed since the advices by the *Canada*.

Accounts from Mexico state that Puebla was still in the possession of Haro Ytamarre. The leaders of the insurrection at the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa had been condemned to be shot.

Letters from Hayti of the 1st of February report that on the morning of that day a proclamation was published, and that the Haytien troops were on their way to their homes, by order of the Emperor, and that the invasion of Dominica had been abandoned.

EDUCATION IN AUSTRIA.—At the last weekly meeting of the Industrial Society of Vienna, one of the speakers, discussing the want of education and the prejudice against it amongst the trading classes, observed—"I know a manufacturer whose educational training led him so far as to write a letter decently, and even to use correct and appropriate language. Ah, well! I myself read letters addressed to him by other merchants declaring that they would no longer have dealings with him if he didn't give up that new-fangled nonsense. He has, consequently, been compelled to leave his letter-writing to one of his workmen, whose style is sufficiently barbarous and whose writing is suitably illegible."

A TICKLISH EXPERIMENT.—A curious event occurred a few days ago in the University of Leipsic. Dr. Reclam, professor of legal medicine, was lecturing on nicotine, and to show the deadly effects of the poison, he administered a large dose of it to a big dog. The animal, which was lying on its back, was immediately seized with convulsions, and ejected a considerable portion of the poison with great violence; it struck the professor in the face, and some of it entered his mouth. The doctor was immediately seized with all the symptoms of poisoning, but antidotes were promptly applied, and he was soon placed out of danger; but he suffered greatly, and had to be conveyed home.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Covent-Garden catastrophe continues to supply the chief theme of metropolitan discussion, and the investigation before the Coroner adds some new features to the lamentable story. The ruins are now the great object of curiosity in London. They have been visited by the Queen, who expressed the most earnest regret at the destruction of the beautiful building, the first stone of which was laid by her uncle, the Prince of Wales, in 1808. Various charitable individuals are already active in exertion for the benefit of the humbler sufferers by the loss. A performance is being organised by some first-class amateurs; and though two of the principal librarians (Messrs. Mitchell and Sams) at once repudiated any connection with the authors of a vulgar puff thrust forward with effrontery while the ruins were yet blazing, those gentlemen will receive subscriptions from the persons entitled to sympathy, described by *Punch* as

those who weep
Their tools—by no means cheap—
In a charred and melted heap
On yon floor

The fate of the one house has naturally made the curators of the other great theatre double vigilant; and it would seem that their watchfulness has been with cause. A report that a portion of Drury-lane Theatre had been on fire was at first treated as a *canard*, and afterwards some uncharitable people suggested that some trumpery accident had been magnified into a fire, for the sake of one of those sensations which some managers do not always dislike. But we have seen a piece of unmistakable charcoal which was taken from one of the beams, and which could not have been produced without a long process of burning; and the public may reasonably be congratulated that Wyatt's building did not follow Smirke's even faster than Holland's followed Shepherd's. While alluding to the subject we may mention that M. Albano, the architect who almost reconstructed Covent-garden Theatre for operatic purposes, has published a statement that the cost of his work was not "extravagant," as had been stated, but was under £23,000. The extravagance of expenditure was in the mounting the operas so splendidly. Anybody who remembers the gorgeous scenes, crowded with mobs or armies, and will begin to estimate the cost of one tableau, taking a single suit of armour at £60 (which the well-informed *Musical World* states to have been the price paid by Mr. Delafield), will speedily see where the money went, without suspecting the architect of needless outlay—a charge which ignorant people are always specially fond of bringing against members of M. Albano's profession, whose work they are entirely incapable of estimating, either artistically or financially.

Parliamentary doings have not been very interesting. Government made a struggle on Monday night to show that its being defeated was not an unvarying rule, and carried the second reading of the County Police Bill; much modified, however. The plan for affording better accommodation for persons having to traverse St. James Park is before the House, and the proposed openings seem advantageous. It ought, however, to be distinctly understood that the Park remains a park; that is to say, a pleasure-ground for the Queen and the people, and that it is not to be converted into a mere thoroughfare. Every kind of traffic, except that for passengers, must be rigidly excluded—carts, drags, waggons, vans, and every vehicle of commerce, must be shut out, or the Park is no longer a place of recreation. This should be at once made clear, for the sake of the thousands who find health and pleasure in the magnificent arena, and must not have their comfort destroyed by the turning the Park into a set of busy streets. Imagine the savage driver of a railway van bearing down with his tremendous car upon the nurserymaids and perambulators, and the poor children screaming in terror as they hurried off right and left under the fire of his execrations. The Park for the people, not for Pickford and Co.

The inquest upon the late Mr. Sadler has resulted in a verdict with which no one can quarrel, but which is seldom found in these days, when almost any act of crime is held to imply a state of mind incompatible with moral responsibility. The verdict is "*Felo de se.*" What will be the verdict upon the poor Irish woman whose husband "beat her to death," in his rage at the loss of some of his money sacrificed by the Sadler operations—money which the poor creature had dissuaded him from taking out of the Tipperary bank? What will be the verdict in the case of many a heart that will be broken through the "speculation" of the devil-driven adventurer? It is stated that one way and another the amount of ruin may be calculated at little under a million. The other "speculator," Sir John D. Paul, has been before the Bankruptcy Court, and looked as "dejected" as any of the honest men whom he has sentenced to hard labour for the rest of their natural lives.

The Kars papers, which have been at length produced, will form the subject of a debate in the House of Lords; and, though it could be wished that the initiative were intrusted to a more competent person than Lord Malmesbury, he may be regarded as the junior counsel who opens the pleadings before a more able advocate rises. Lord Ellenborough, who will deal more worthily with the question, and who gave, months ago, a singular warning as to the fate of Kars, a prediction literally fulfilled, will, of course, deal with the case after the Forcible Feeble—some time Lord Derby's Foreign Minister, and Austria's—has exhausted himself upon it. The documents are of a character which will defy the ingenuity of any official defender of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe; and the most honourable course which his friends can adopt will be to say that his Lordship has rendered, in his time, invaluable services both to Turkey and England, but that his inconceivably arrogant and petulant nature has at last betrayed him into conduct for which there is no excuse; but for which it is hoped that his prior services and his immediate recall will be deemed some atonement. Let us add that the bad news of the health of the gallant Williams has been followed by more satisfactory accounts. He was stated to be on his way to Moscow.

The great Turkish reform is to be rapidly followed up. We do not despair of seeing Constantinople rendered habitable by colonists from London and Paris. We shall soon hear of a metropolitan board of eminent Turks, meeting to consider the Bosphorus drainage question, and the appointment of two-legged scavengers in lieu of dogs, and the necessity of making camels keep their own side of the way instead of walking over people. The paper lanterns which one carries at night, to avoid tumbling over the above-mentioned dogs, have had their day—a company has been formed for lighting Oriental cities with gas, and some of its directors are on their way to Constantinople with all sorts of credentials, and with the view of obtaining a firman which will give them an exclusive privilege. A Turkish Gas Company! How the old-fashioned Turks will growl as they watch the lamplighter bring fire out of nothing, and broach their theories—for they are very Calvanistic—that the process will be hereafter repeated upon his unbelieving soul. A Protestant church, too, is talked of, which, it is to be hoped, will advance faster than the one at Alexandria. And as the Sultan, according to Mr. Leech, has learned the polka from some of "the deep-bosomed daughters of the Frank," and has acquired a taste for fancy balls, the Refuge of the World and Man-slayer may, ere long, signify his royal wish for an Oriental Almack's, with six of the Lights of the Harem as the first ladies patronesses—vouchers to be exchanged at the *Serai Bornou*. Are not we Anglo-Saxons converting the world?

The *Madrid Gazette*, as a proof of the excellent manner in which the electric telegraph now works in Spain, says that the speech of the Emperor of the French on opening the Legislative Body was transmitted to Madrid in a few minutes.

Some discussion having arisen as to whether Sisters of Charity should be admitted to the workhouse, Marylebone, the following resolution has been carried:—"That ladies being members of the Roman Catholic Church be admitted into the workhouse, subject to the same terms and conditions as other ladies of various religious denominations."

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 11, 1856.

Month and Day.	Corrected Heading of Barometer at 9 A.M. 181 feet above sea level.		Thermometer.	Mean Temperature of Read at 10 P.M. of the Day.	Rain in Inches.	Mean Temperature of Read at 10 P.M. of the Day.	Amount of Ozone (0-10).	Mean amount of Cloud. (0-10).
	Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.						
Mar. 5	30.187	44°6	32°0	39°5	0.000	28°5	37°0	2 1 9°9
" 6	30.085	43°7	36°8	39°8	0.010	38°4	38°0	6 7 9°2
" 7	30.205	44°5	35°5	40°4	0.004	39°8	38°6	8 2 4°8
" 8	30.217	52°8	29°3	39°7	0.009	37°9	38°4	2 0 3°2
" 9	30.095	49°5	37°5	42°4	0.000	40°6	40°9	5 7 8°2
" 10	29.980	44°8	38°7	41°6	0.000	40°0	39°3	6 4 10°0
" 11	29.992	48°0	32°0	38°7	0.000	34°9	35°7	4 3 8°0
Mean	30.109	46°8	34°8	40°3	0.014	38°6	38°3	4°7 3°4 7°6

The range of temperature during the week was 23°5°. The weather on the 5th and 6th dull; 7th, 8th, 9th, fine; 10th, dull; 11th, fine.

The direction of the wind was—on 5th, S.W., moving at 8h. 40m. a.m. to N. noon to N.E. 1h. 15m. p.m. to N., 6h. 45m. to N.N.W. 10h. p.m. to N.W.; became N.N.W. at 12h. 30m. a.m., on the 6th, N. at 12h. 50m. a.m., N.N.W. at 1h. 45m. N. at 2h. a.m., N.E. at 3h. a.m., N. at 7h. a.m., N.E. at 2h. p.m.; becoming N.E. at 8h. a.m., on the 7th, E.N.E. at 11h. a.m., E. at 1p.m., N.E. at 2h. p.m., N. at 8h. p.m.; changed to W.N.W. at 9h. 15m. a.m., on 8th, W. at 9h. 30m. a.m., W.S.W. at 10h. 15m. a.m., S.S.W. at 3h. 30m. p.m., moving at 4h. 15m. p.m. through S. to E.N.E.; passing at 12h. 30m. a.m. on 9th, through N. to N.W.; became W. at 5h. 45m. a.m., N.W. at 4h. 30m. p.m., W. at 7h. 30m. p.m.; W.N.W. at 12h. 45m. a.m. on 10th, W. at 2h. a.m., moving through N. to N.E. at 9h. 45m. a.m. to E.N.E. at 11h. 45m. a.m.; became E.S.E. at 8h. a.m., on 11th, S.E. at 10h. 45m. a.m., S.E. at 11h. a.m., S.S.E. at 1p.m., S. at 9h. 15m. p.m., in which quarter it remained. E. J. LOWE.

REPRESENTATION OF SLIGO.—The result of the Sligo election is the return of the Right Hon. John Wynne, the Conservative candidate. The numbers at the close of the poll were—Wynne, 148; Somers, 108; majority, 40.

CAPTURE OF A RIBBON GANG.—A letter from Roscommon announces the capture on the 7th inst. of a band of fifteen ribbonmen. They formed part of a gang who for some time past have been traversing the county, attacking houses, and demanding arms. Their arrest has caused great consternation among their associates yet at large, many of whom have fled the neighbourhood of their exploits.

DEATH BY A CRICKET-BALL.—On Saturday Henry Simpson, aged nine years, son of Mr. Joseph Simpson, Inspector of Ways, was on Parker's-piece, looking on at a game at cricket, when he was struck on the right ear by a ball from the bat of Mr. Hemington, of Pembroke College, with such force as to produce insensibility. He was conveyed home, and every care bestowed upon him, but he died on Tuesday morning.—*Cambridge Independent*.

ALLEGED POISONING IN LANARKSHIRE.—Archibald Rollo, about thirty years of age, and his sister-in-law, Mary Smith, both lately residing at the farm of Blairmuckhill, parish of Shotts, have been committed for trial on the charge of poisoning the mother-in-law of the former and the mother of the latter. The deceased had a life interest in the property of Blairmuckhill, and resided with her two daughters, the elder of whom was related to Rollo, and has a family of four children. She died at the close of November last, and on the night of her death the relatives were summoned to her funeral for the day following, the reason ascribed for the hasty interment by Rollo being that the deceased had died of cholera. From rumours which began to spread, however, an investigation was instituted by the procurator fiscal of Airdrie; and on the 31st December, a month after the interment, the body of the deceased was exhumed. The stomach and other parts of the body were placed in a jar, and sent to Edinburgh for the purpose of being analysed. The result of this examination was, that arsenic, in considerable quantities, was detected in the stomach.—*Scotch Paper*.

SEIZURE OF ADULTERATED FLOUR AT GOOLE.—At the Goole petty sessions, on Saturday last, Messrs. Rhodes and Rockett, millers, carrying on an extensive business at Snaith and Goole, were charged with having a large quantity of adulterated flour and meal on their premises on the 1st inst. Mr. Superintendent Burke stated that on that day he visited the defendant's premises, and on the millstone in the windmill he discovered a piece of white clay. In the flour-mill he took samples out of one sack of each of nine lots of flour and meal. These samples had been submitted to Mr. Wood and Mr. Dresser, analytical chemists, Leeds. Mr. Wood stated that in one lot which he had analysed he found three-quarters per cent. of alumina, or white clay, which was equal to two per cent. of clay. More or less, he discovered the presence of the same foreign substance in every lot except three. The magistrates fined the defendants £10 and costs, and ordered the sixteen sacks of adulterated flour found upon their premises to be sold for feeding swine, and the proceeds to be given to the rector of Goole for distribution among the poor.

DARING ESCAPE FROM YORK HOUSE OF CORRECTION.—John Lyons, tried at the last York assizes and sentenced to penal servitude, effected his escape from York House of Correction the other day. The mode of exit was by the garden behind the governor's house. By means of a rope formed of handkerchiefs and a blanket, Lyons got upon the outer wall. A ticket-of-leave convict, named Riley, in attempting to follow the example, fell upon the *chevaux de frise*, and thence to the ground, the iron spikes having entered the flesh of his left leg, and severely lacerated it, rupturing an artery. He was consequently seriously injured, and there was a considerable flow of blood from the wound. The prison surgeon stopped the wounds. On Lyons' escape being discovered, he was pursued, and traced towards Bishopthorpe, by the governor and others. On coming near him, seeing no other means of escape, he took to the river Ouse, where he swam about ten yards, and twice attempted to cross, but being exhausted he gave up the attempt, and returned to *terra firma*, where his pursuers were ready to receive him, and convey him back to his old quarters.

SINGULAR CONFIRMATION OF A DREAM.—The *Durham Chronicle* contains the following statement in reference to the Burnopfield murder, the trial for which Richard Rayne and John Cain was postponed on Thursday last, to the next Durham assizes:—"In reference to this case we have to place on record a circumstance of a very remarkable and affecting nature, which, however it may be accounted for or disbelieved, is nevertheless perfectly true. Mr. Stirling's parents, who, it will be remembered, resided at Kirkintilloch, near Glasgow, have been in Durham during the assizes, attending the court, for the purpose of hearing the trial of the alleged murderers of their unfortunate son, and the statement which we subjoin is from Mr. Stirling himself. On the night of the 1st of November, the day on which the murder was committed, Mrs. Stirling had a remarkable, and what she termed a fearful dream. She dreamt that some parties were outside of the house intending to break into it. In a short time a man with dark complexion and dark dress looked in upon her at the window, presented a gun, and discharged it at her. At this juncture she awoke in great trepidation; and since then the dream—most strongly impressed upon her mind by the fact of her son's murder, intelligence of which would not reach her until six or seven days later than the dream—has ever been vivid in her recollection. Mrs. Stirling accompanied her husband to Durham, for the purpose, as we have said, of being present at the trial. She expressed a great desire to see the two men who were accused of the murder, and for that purpose visited the prison on Wednesday. Several men were walking in the yard at the time, including Cain, Rayne, a turnkey, and three or four others. Immediately on perceiving Rayne, without being told the name of any of the men, she recognised in him the features of the man whom she saw in her dream fire through the window at her, pointed him out, and burst into tears. Mrs. Stirling still expresses her positive conviction with respect to Rayne."

POISONING OF A WIFE BY STRYCHNINE.—An inquest was held at Fleischman's Hotel, Leeds, on the 7th inst., on the body of Harriet Dove, aged twenty-eight, the wife of Mr. William Dove, a gentleman of independent means, residing at Cardigan-place, Burley, near Leeds, whose death had been caused by poisoning by strychnine. Mrs. Dove had been suffering from disorder of the nervous system since December, but was so far recovered at the end of last month that she was able to take out-door exercise. On the 23rd of February she became worse, and on the evening of the 29th ult., she died under circumstances which left little doubt as to her having been poisoned. From a careful *post-mortem* examination the presence of strychnine has been detected in the stomach. In the course of the inquest, which has been adjourned till Monday next, it was ascertained that Mr. Dove had obtained strychnine on two separate occasions a few weeks before the death of his wife. Other evidence calculated to affix guilt upon him having transpired, he has been taken into custody.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS OF PERSIA.—The *Court Journal* of Teheran reports that the Shah's forces have been chastising some Afghan bandits. The heads of forty thieves were paraded lately in Teheran, "under the eyes of the Shah." The *Journal de Teheran* announces the death of the Minister of War of the Shah of Persia, and the arrest of the Khan of Baradashan. The journal announces further, that the Persian troops which had arrived at Benderaboukir, with eight cannons, have occupied the island of Kharak, in the Persian Gulf.

MR. GEORGE BIDDER ON MENTAL CALCULATION.

Two of the recent evening meetings of the Institution of Civil Engineers have been devoted to the hearing of addresses by Mr. George Bidder, the eminent engineer, conveying to the members that process of reasoning, or action of the mind, which constitutes the power of Mental Calculation. The boyhood of Mr. George Bidder will be remembered among the few records we possess of this class of eminent mental calculators: his object in these communications was truthfully to submit the result of certain facts connected with his own training in Mental Arithmetic; in short, to detail the progress, as it were, of an experiment worked completely out upon himself, and to give a faithful record of the result. The interest excited by these communications has been so great, not only in scientific circles, but with the general public, that we propose to present to our readers an abstract of Mr. Bidder's *vivid voce* addresses, as an accompaniment to his Portrait engraved upon the next page.

Mr. Bidder is convinced that Mental Calculation can be taught to children, and be acquired with greater facility and less irksomeness than ordinary arithmetic. Still the eminent mental calculators have been extremely few during the last two centuries, among whom Jedediah Buxton and Zerah Colborne were the most remarkable; but even their powers have not been usefully employed, in consequence of their not having subsequently had the opportunity of receiving a mathematical education. It has been commonly thought that Mental Calculation is an art naturally engraven upon peculiarly constituted minds; it has also been attributed to the possession of great powers of memory; and it has been generally thought that Mr. Bidder himself has been indebted to unusual powers of memory and a natural mathematical turn of mind for the celebrity he has acquired. Now, Mr. Bidder emphatically declares this not to have been the case; he has sought every opportunity of comparing himself with boys and men who possessed this faculty, and, except so far as being carefully trained and practised in the cultivation and use of figures, he has not found that his memory was more than ordinarily retentive. In fact, whilst at school and at college, he had some difficulty in maintaining a decently respectable position in the mathematical class.

Mr. Bidder enunciates, as a principle, that there is not any royal or short road to Mental Calculation: the processes are, like all others in arithmetical computation, to be performed seriatim, as, whatever may be the number of figures employed in a calculation, they are only so many symbols, to be dealt with precisely as they would be in algebraic formulae, with which the calculations may be considered as identical. In point of fact, many of the processes of Mental Calculation, if produced on paper, would appear most complex and complicated. They can, however, be accomplished mentally, in consequence of the faculty of occupying the mind simultaneously with the double task of "computing" and "registering." The first—computing—is executive or reasoning, and is that portion of the process which, whilst it is the most active, is not that which cause the greatest strain on the mind. The result is recorded by the second faculty, registering, which is the real strain upon the mind, and that by which along the power of Mental Computation is limited.

Experience has shown that, up to a certain point, the power of registering is as rapid as that of thought; but the difficulty increases, in a very high ratio, in reference to the number and extent of impressions to be registered, until a point is reached, the registration of which in the mind and by writing are exactly balanced. Below that point, mental registration is preferable; above it, that by writing will be as quick, and more certain. Therefore, the mental process, as compared with the operation of writing, is as the speed of lightning to that of an express train; and, if the power of registration could be maintained at all times upon a par with the executive faculty, there would be no difficulty in computing with immense rapidity a table of logarithms up to ten places of figures.

All the rules employed by Mr. Bidder were invented by him, and are only methods of so arranging calculation as to facilitate the power of registration; in fact, he thus arrived at a sort of natural algebra, using actual numbers in the place of symbols. He believes it was in about the sixth year of his age that he began to deal with numbers; he had not then learned to



MR. GEORGE P. BIDDER, C.E.—FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY MAYALL

try. With this view, the training should be extended, and there would be no difficulty in conveying to young minds the knowledge of certain leading facts connected with the sciences, long before they are capable of comprehending the beautiful trains of reasoning by which their truths were established. There is no difficulty in impressing, permanently, an appreciation of the relative proportion of the diameter to the circumference of a circle, of the beautiful property of the square of the hypothenuse of a right-angled triangle being equal to the squares of the two sides containing the right angle, or of the equality of the areas of triangles on the same base, contained between the same parallel, and many others which must occur to all geometers.

The same with respect to the properties of several series of numbers—for instance, $1 + 3 + 5$, &c., or $1 + 2 + 3$, &c., or $(1) + (1 \times 6) + (1 + 3 \times 6) + (1 + 6 \times 6)$, &c.

The task proposed having been accomplished, Mr. Bidder concluded by

The task proposed having been accomplished, Mr. Bidder concluded by addressing to the Institution a few remarks of a more personal nature.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY—FOUNDATION OF THE
NEW MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

THIS interesting ceremony was performed on Friday week, the 7th inst., by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, in presence of a highly numerous and distinguished assembly, upon the lawn of the Royal Dublin Society's premises, Merrion-square: the intended building, when completed, being designed to form a wing of the main edifice, and to present a corresponding façade to the Dargan Institute, or Irish National Gallery, which is in contemplation also shortly to erect at the opposite or northern extremity of the lawn. The day was remarkably fine, and the gathering was numerous and brilliant. A company of the 2nd Somersetshire Regiment of Militia, with band and colours, were drawn up at the grand entrance to the Royal Dublin Society's premises; and a guard of honour, consisting of a troop of the 16th Lancers, escorted the Viceregal cortége to the principal gate. His Excellency arrived at three o'clock, accompanied by Lady Fanny Howard, Mr. F. Howard, Lieut.-Col. Udney, Lieut.-Col. Baring, Captain Willis,

Captain Fitzroy, Dr. Hatchell, Captain Williams, Captain Ellis, Cornet Gore, and other members of the Viceregal Staff; and, having been received by the Marquis of Kildare, V.P., Mr. Weld, V.P., and the members of the Council, was conducted to the board-room, where the presidential chair was taken by the Earl of Carlisle, in virtue of his office of Viceroy.

Mr. Foot, Honorary Secretary to the Society, then read to his Excellency an address, recapitulating the progress of the Museum of the Royal Dublin Society, from its origin to the Treasury grant in 1853, in aid of founding "the National Museum of Ireland," the first stone of which his Excellency was about to lay. The proposed building, according to the plans and elevation of Mr. Frederick V. Clarendon, architect, will be 225 feet in length, 45 in breadth, and 55 in height, ornamentally faced with cut stone.

The Lord Lieutenant returned an eloquent reply, concluding by expressing a hope "that the building about to arise on the spot already connected with high ancestral recollections of Ireland may, with its kindred departments, furnish ever-increasing accommodation for the pursuits of useful knowledge and humanising accomplishments, and open for the coming generations worthy temples of science, art, and learning, at whose shrine they may be taught how most to reverence their Creator, and how best to benefit their fellow-creatures."

His Excellency, having been duly furnished with a mason's apron, then proceeded to the future site of the Museum, when a glass vase, containing coins of the realm, medals of the Society, and a medal struck expressly for the occasion, was deposited in a cavity in the foundation; which having been hermetically closed up, his Excellency, plied the handsome silver trowel, mallet, and plumb-line with considerable dexterity, and said, amidst loud applause, "I declare the first stone of this building well and truly laid;" and called for three cheers for the new Museum. These having been cordially given,

Mr. Henry Kemmis, Vice-President of the Society, then, on the part of the Royal Dublin Society, thanked the Lord Lieutenant. His Excellency replied, and concluded by mounting the block of granite, and called upon the assembly to give "three cheers for her Majesty the Queen." The call was enthusiastically responded to, his Excellency setting the example. The Viceregal party then took their departure, amidst the same ceremonies as observed upon their arrival. The general company, however, induced by the fineness of the day and the presence of the band, remained for a considerable time afterwards.

PICCO, THE SARDINIAN MINSTREL.

THIS young man, who has been astonishing the Parisian musical world by his performances on an instrument of the humblest possible kind—a little pipe or flageolet, no better than a child's penny whistle—has arrived in London, and had a concert at the Hanover-square Rooms on Saturday evening last, when the effects which he produced by means of his poor little instrument were at once so marvellous and so beautiful that a large audience, among whom were many of our most distinguished musicians and *dilettanti*, were filled with wonder and delight.

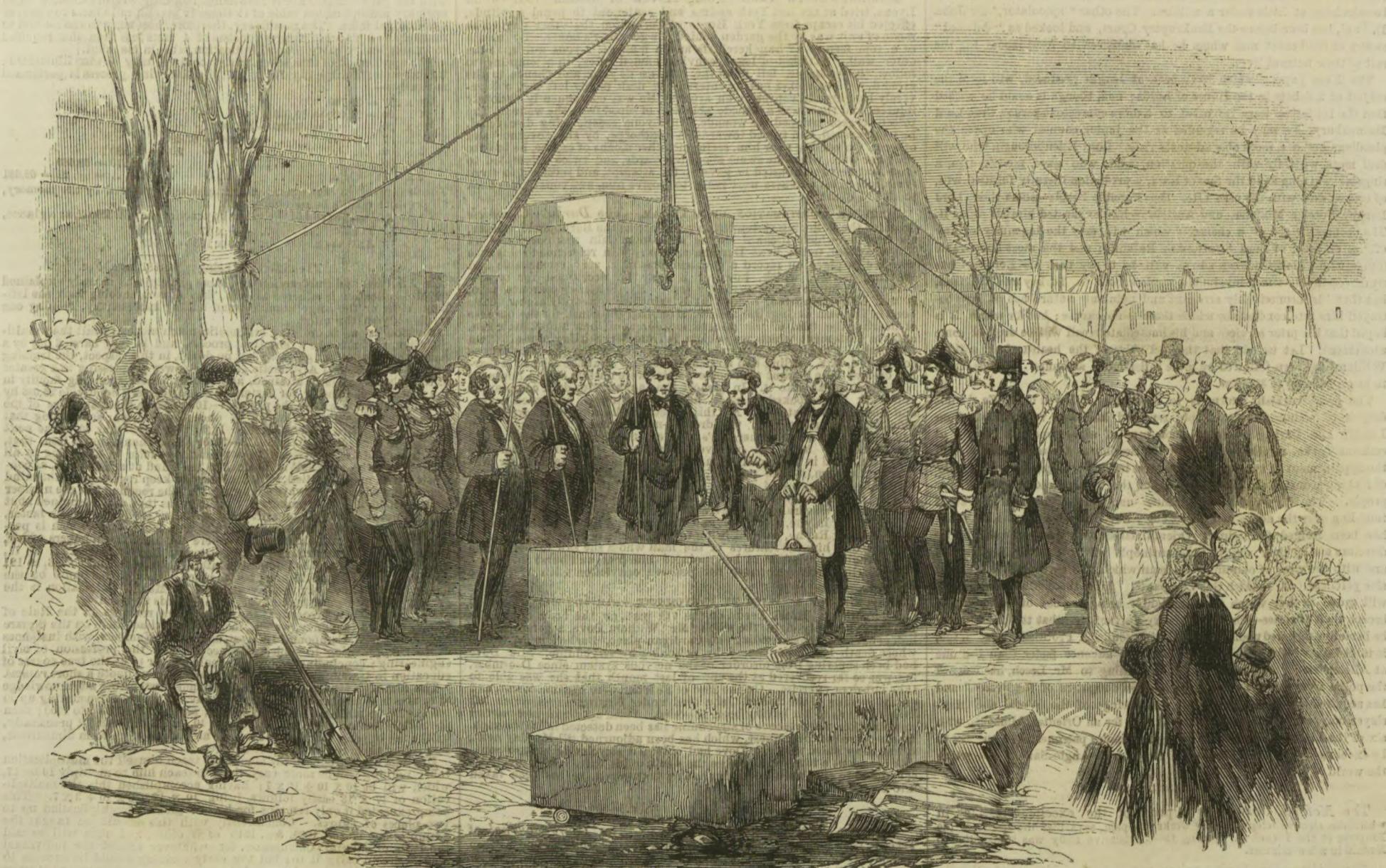
Picco is a young man, the son of a Piedmontese shepherd, blind from his birth, and destitute of any musical education. Some time in the year before last, as we are told, his extraordinary attainments were discovered by accident. A sportsman, wandering among the Apennines, was struck by hearing at a distance a singular strain of music, and found that it proceeded from a country lad, playing on the rude instrument we have mentioned. Charmed and astonished, he accompanied the youth to his father's cottage; and the result was that the old man was persuaded to allow his son to be taken to Milan, with the view of making something by his talent. In December, 1854, young Picco obtained an engagement to perform at the theatre of La Scala, where his playing created such a sensation that his fame spread over Italy, and he was engaged at all the principal theatres, from Milan to Naples. At Rome he was made, by a formal diploma, a member of the Academy of Saint Cecilia, in that city. From Naples he went to Paris, and appeared at the Théâtre Italien, in December last; and the impression he made on the public was described in glowing language by the *Journal des Débats*, the *Presse*, and other leading journals of the French metropolis; and it was made apparent by his performance at the Hanover-square Rooms last Saturday that their accounts were by no means exaggerated.

A black and white woodcut-style illustration of a bearded man with a mustache. He is wearing a wide-brimmed hat with a feather and a highly ornate, patterned coat with a fur-trimmed collar and cuffs. He is seated, holding a pipe in his right hand. The background is plain.

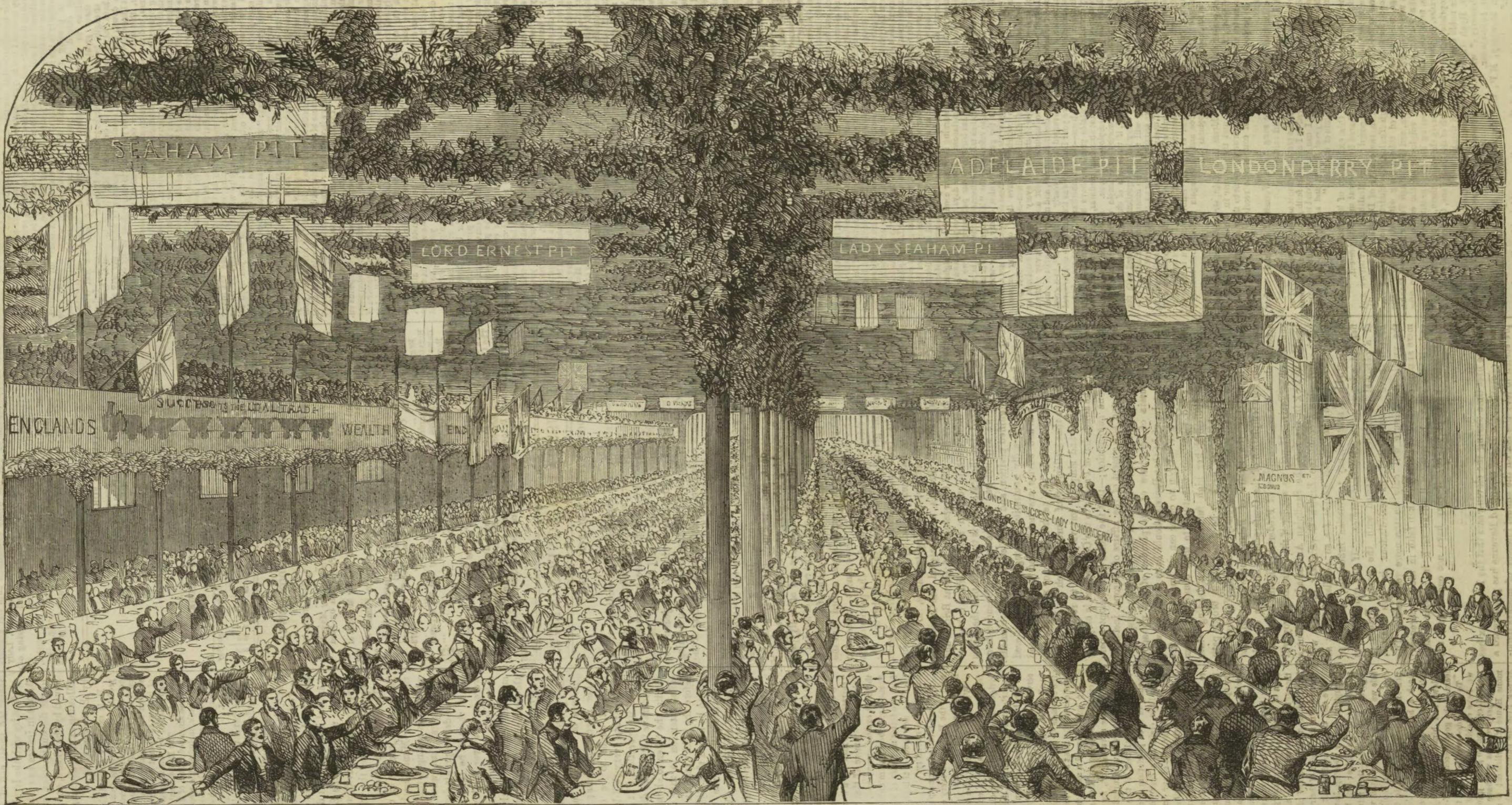
PICCO.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.

which could not be exceeded by the most skilful performer on the violin. But, beyond these mechanical attainments, which must have been gained by ingenuity and application, he possesses the more precious gifts derived immediately from nature—taste, refinement, and feeling. He has a powerful imagination and an inventive genius—the faculties necessary to make a composer as well as a performer. He is able to extemporise on a given subject with great brilliancy, and in a style entirely his own. At the concert on Saturday he played two pieces, the "Cants Diva" from "Norma," and the "Carnaval de Venise," with variations, partly Paganini's, and partly his own. His performance of Bellini's celebrated air was exquisitely beautiful; quite vocal in its effect, and full of expression. His "Carnaval de Venise" was absolutely marvellous, and quite indescribable: it must be heard to form any idea of it. It contained the wildest and most fantastic flights of Paganini, whose variations he must have learned from some of the great violinists whom he may have heard in the course of his Italian travels—one of whom, however, could have surpassed him in brilliancy of execution. The only defects in his performance are those which could not possibly be avoided by any degree of skill. The first is the high pitch of his instrument and its want of low notes; and the second is the piercing shrillness of the very highest sounds of his scale. Both are necessary consequences of the minuteness of his tiny plaything, which, in any other hands, could not have been called an instrument. But they detract much less than might have been expected from the power and beauty of his playing.

His concert, we must add, was exceedingly well got up and interesting, even independently of his performances. The admirable band of the Orchestral Union, under their able conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon, played several fine pieces; and songs by Miss Lascelles and Signor Veroni gave additional variety to the concert. We advise our musical readers to hear this Italian youth; their astonishment will not be greater than their pleasure.



THE LORD-LIEUTENANT LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE NEW MUSEUM AT DUBLIN.



DINNER GIVEN BY THE MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY TO PITMEN, ON CHILTON MOOR.

THE occurrence of festivals of various kinds is from time to time illustrated and recorded in our pages; but a great festal meeting of between three and four thousand pitmen in the north, which we have now to chronicle, is, indeed, a most extraordinary event, and altogether worthy of occupying a picture-page of our Journal.

The vast gathering took place, on Saturday, the 1st instant, on Chilton Moor, the centre of that great colliery district which Frances Marchioness of Londonderry brought to her husband as the heiress of the Vane-Tempest family, and to which, and to the development of its resources, the late Marquis of Londonderry devoted his energies. This is the largest colliery property in England in the hands of one individual. It extends over an area of 12,000 acres, lying between Sunderland and Seaham on the coast, and extending inland as far as the city of Durham—producing an average approaching one million tons of coal per annum. One of the proudest compliments ever paid to an individual was addressed to the late Lord Londonderry by Sir Robert Peel, when that great Statesman attended the opening of Seaham harbour, and congratulated his Lordship, in the name of his country, on the accomplishment of a gigantic and patriotic work which had cost his family an expenditure of £250,000. Nor did the efforts of the late Marquis stop

at this point, for, by carrying out a railway connecting the two ports of Sunderland and Seaham, he has made his family the only one in England possessing, as their individual property, a line with passenger-traffic. To these great works and the important duties connected with their management—doubly important as affecting the well-being of many thousands of persons—Frances Marchioness of Londonderry has succeeded and by increasing their scope has shown herself not unequal to the task. Her Ladyship has already determined upon enlarging Seaham harbour, at an outlay of £100,000, and, with a view to expedite the commercial importance of that already thriving seaport town, she has, with great foresight and judgment, taken extensive iron-stone mines in the Cleveland district of Yorkshire, whence the inter-acting railways will bring the ore to the coast at Seaham, where blast-furnaces on a large scale are to be erected.

Meetings, such as that on Saturday week, between coalowners and their men are not unprecedented, but they have usually been confined to assemblies at the mouth of each separate pit, and even these of late years have fallen into desuetude. It has remained for Lady Londonderry to restore this ancient custom, and to enhance its value by making it an aggregate assembly, a general meeting of the employer and the employed, as well as to mark it by a festival which

will long be remembered in the county of Durham. A finer body of men than those 3000 sturdy pitmen who turned out at the bidding of their noble mistress could not have been assembled in any agricultural or manufacturing district in the kingdom. They all looked stout, well-fed, and merry; had clean shining faces, were well clothed, and in intelligence were certainly superior to many working men who are conventionally looked upon as their superiors. The selection of Chilton Moor for the assemblage arose from the circumstance of its being the central point of that great colliery district owned by Lady Londonderry, and from the fact of a building existing there, the property of Mr. Hopper, an iron-founder, formerly in the employ of Lord Londonderry in a very humble capacity, but now an eminent manufacturer—in which ample accommodation could be afforded for the large number of persons invited. This building was 184 feet long by 67 broad. The walls were hung with coloured drapery, and ornamented with appropriate banners and mottoes. There were thirty tables, in three divisions, in the building, each affording seats for ninety men. The dais was in the centre of the building, facing the entrance, and opposite was a gallery which afforded to 500 female spectators an opportunity of witnessing the gratifying sight.

The men from the various collieries arrived by special train and otherwise during

the morning, and at twelve o'clock took their places under the banners inscribed with the names of their respective pits.

Earl Vane occupied the chair, having his noble mother on his right hand, and the Countess Vane upon his left. The Marchioness was supported by Mr. Hugh Taylor, chairman of the Coal Exchange; and among the gentlemen on the dais we observed the Mayor of Durham and Mr. Mowbray, M.P. for that city, the Mayor of Sunderland, and several influential residents in the county.

Ample time having been afforded for the enjoyment of the good things provided, the Chairman claimed silence for grace, which was very beautifully sung by the Durham choristers, and, to the astonishment of the privileged party, received from the guests the unexpected compliment of a rattling round of applause.

The healths of the Queen and Royal family were then given; after which the noble Chairman solicited, on behalf of his mother, their attention for a few moments. Lady Londonderry was very anxious to express her great gratification at meeting them, and he was sure they would listen to what she had to say.

The Marchioness rose, and, at first, spoke in a voice tremulous with emotion; but, as she warmed with the subject, her mode of utterance gained strength, and she proceeded with emphasis and marked feeling to address the meeting as follows:—

My friends.—I have invited you all to dinner to-day that we may become better acquainted—that you may hear from my own lips an assurance of the deep interest I feel in your welfare, and that I may have an opportunity of expressing the pride and satisfaction I have in presiding over so large a body of intelligent and well-conducted people. I have asked all in my employ to participate in this feast, and I bid you all a friendly welcome. But I address myself principally to the pitmen, many of whose fathers worked under my ancestors. It is pleasing to trace back this bond of union, which I fondly hope may extend to the next generation, and that their children may continue to serve under mine. I regret that since the management of these great concerns has devolved on me I have not had health or strength to visit you underground as I could have wished. Indeed I have never been able to persuade Mr. Elliot to promise to take me down, and I am afraid I should hardly succeed in finding my way alone. But I hope, nevertheless, I may be permitted to say, without vanity or presumption, that no collieries are more carefully looked after. Your comforts, your homes, and your schools, have been anxiously watched over. The latter have long enjoyed a proud pre-eminence; and, although I have refused to place them under Government inspection and supervision, I know that they are well managed; and it is your own fault if you take your children away too soon, and thus deprive them of the benefit of the good education that is provided for them. You will know how necessary that is for success in after life. We need not travel beyond the precincts of this building for instances of persons who have been the architects of their own fortune. It is the pride and boast of your head viewer that he was reared and nursed a boy in these pits, and it must be encouraging to look around this great mining country and see the many instances of men who have won their way to wealth and fame by labour and perseverance. On the other hand, I am proud to say you have set an example to the whole trade. You were the first to return to the old-fashioned system of "binding"; and you have worked on steadily when the men in adjoining collieries were on the strike. You have seen them turned out of their homes—their fortune lying on the roads, and they and their belongings seeking shelter, while you have been comfortable by your own hearths in your peaceful homes, enjoying the reward of honest industry. Long may this happy state continue, and may you ever feel how much your interests are entwined with those of your employer! It is a subject of great thankfulness that these collieries have been for some time spared and exempt from any serious accident. Casualties will sometimes occur notwithstanding all the precautions and vigilance of your overseers and your viewers, and here let me endeavour to impress strongly upon your minds how much depends on your own prudence and care. I would I could find words or had eloquence to make this warning emphatic; for, I regret to say, the reports I receive of recklessness fill me with pain and alarm; and I know that Mr. Elliot has lately had occasion to visit most severely some fearful instances of negligence with the safety-lamp, that might have caused the most terrific results. You see that, although I have not been down, I am well informed of what passes below. You are all aware of the circumstances I allude to, and that those careless people have been punished—some by law, some by dismissal. Let me implore, I beseech you, that you will be careful and watchful; and remember, each of you, that not only your own lives, but those of hundreds, hang upon a thread—the gauze of your lamps—the shutting or the opening of a door. And, while I ask for God's blessing on your undertaking, fail not to do all in your humble power to deserve it. I advise you to frequent and support your reading-rooms, your mechanics' institutions, your temperance societies, and to avoid the public-house—to be orderly, industrious, and religious. I speak not of men's creeds. They rest between man and his Maker. Nor do I presume to dictate on this momentous subject beyond expressing my anxious hope that you will hallow the Sabbath, and each attend your own place of worship. That duty paid, you will better enjoy the rest and recreation the Sunday afternoon should bring for yourselves and your families (Cheers). As a friend of religious liberty, I have not refused sites for chapels of different persuasions, where the numbers have justified my doing so; and I hope in a few months the church at New Seaham will be finished and available for the mining population residing there. I wish you were nearer to Wynyard, which was lately visited by 600 members of the Stockton Mechanics' Institute, who applied to me for permission to see the House. They expressed themselves highly gratified, and were most orderly, quiet, respectable, and well-conducted. And now, my friends, I will not detain you longer than to tell you how much pleasure it has given me to see you all here, and to express my hope that you will remember and heed my words. I feel deeply the responsibility of my position, and I have thought it right to advise and counsel you to the best of my humble power; and I hope that, while I am permitted to preside over you, we may each individually and collectively continue to endeavour to do our duty in that state of life to which it has pleased God to call us.

At many points of this speech, addressing itself so particularly to the homely sympathies of her hearers, the Marchioness was interrupted with loud applause, which, at the termination of her address, swelled into a perfect clamour of cheers, followed by an ebullition of sympathy such as is seldom witnessed at a public meeting. Amidst this the Marchioness resumed her seat, but it was some time before the assembly had returned to its former order. Upon silence being restored,

John Cuthbertson, a coal-hewer, then rose from the body of the assembly, and addressed the Marchioness as follows:—

My Lady, I rise with feelings of the greatest diffidence to propose your Ladyship's good health. Being one of your Ladyship's coal-hewers, and having been born and passed all the days of my life under you, I have been honoured with the choice of this vast assemblage of my fellow-workmen to present their cordial and sincere thanks to your Ladyship for the unrivalled kindness which your Ladyship has so strikingly manifested time after time to us who are employed by you, and for this present extraordinary display of your Ladyship's good feeling and generosity; and especially for the eloquent and most interesting address from your Ladyship, to which we have all listened with feelings of extreme delight. In that address your Ladyship has made particular mention of the schools existing throughout your Ladyship's collieries for the instruction and benefit of the rising generation, and which have been established and are entirely supported by your Ladyship. We trust the great privileges of these schools will long be continued amongst us, and will be handed down from year to year as imperishable monuments of the untiring zeal and interest which your Ladyship has manifested for the religious and secular improvement, and for the general comfort, of all who are employed by you. For ourselves, as working men, we are thankful, indeed, that we live in so bright an age—an age of light and of intellectual improvement, characterised as it is by every facility for acquiring information. The most useful and important learning is not now confined to the higher walks of life—to those in affluent circumstances. Those days have passed away, and a brighter and more luminous age has burst upon our pathway; and we all well know and feel that your Ladyship has taken an extremely active part in bringing this about. Your Ladyship has also referred to the "bindings." For my own part I can say, and I think it is the general opinion of my fellow-workmen, that we prefer the yearly engagements. For these engagements are a direct preventive of many evils to which we have been long exposed. For instance, the dividing of families—the non-cultivation of that portion of land which is allotted, free of charge, to every workman employed by your Ladyship—the temptation to accumulate debt and go away without settlement or agreement with the creditors. These, and many other evils to which I might refer, if not entirely prevented by the yearly binding, are, in a great degree, curtailed. And I believe your Ladyship was the first who endeavoured to bring back to us this valuable boon—our lost inheritance. These are a few—a very few indeed—of the indubitable proofs we have had of your Ladyship's extraordinary benevolence and most abundant kindness, manifested to all of us who have the good fortune to be employed by you. It would be well for the north of England if so bright and worthy an example were more extensively imitated. It would be well, indeed, if those acts of charity and benevolence I have alluded to were imitated by every lady and gentleman connected with the mineral interest. Your Ladyship will require no monumental building to preserve the honoured name you have acquired among us. That is written in indelible characters on the tablets of many a grateful heart. It is embalmed in the memory of living thousands, and will be handed down to our posterity with undying love. Ladies and gentlemen on the platform, and ladies and gentlemen in the gallery, I call upon you to join my fellow-workmen in this vast assemblage with three times three and thrice again to Lady Londonderry's good health, and long life and happiness to her!

The speaker delivered this address in a plain, straightforward manner. He evidently felt what he said, and the manner in which he was cheered by his mates showed that he gave true utterance to their sentiments. The way he proposed, as a matter of course, was received with tumultuous applause.

The Durham choristers here sang "The Women of England;" after which Lady Londonderry rose and said:—

My friends, on an occasion like the present I cannot ask my son to respond on my behalf (Cheers). Overpowered as I am by the feelings to which such a scene as this must naturally give rise, I can only respond to your kindness by considering myself as the head of a great family, and saying to you all, "My children, I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

The Marchioness delivered this expression of her feeling with much emotion, which was evidently shared by the great majority present.

The noble Chairman then proposed "The Health of our Visitors, and Success to the Mining Interest in the county of Durham; coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Hugh Taylor, the chairman of the Coal Exchange, who has kindly honoured this meeting with his presence." The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Mr. Hugh Taylor returned thanks.

John Potter, a coal-hewer, employed on the estate more than fifty years, next rose. After expressing his own gratitude, and that of his comrades, for the many kindnesses shown to them, he proposed, in a few appropriate words, "The Health of the Earl Vane, Chairman of the Day."

The noble Chairman returned thanks.

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Mr. Mowbray, M.P., then proposed "The Health of the Countess Vane."

Earl Vane acknowledged the compliment paid to his wife, and as a fitting word gave them, "Sweethearts and Wives—the single married, nœ the married happy."

This happy sentiment put the whole assemblage into the greatest possible good humour, and, during the merriment which succeeded, Lady Londonderry retired from the hall amidst the long-continued cheering of its occupants. And thus ended this most remarkable meeting.

The arrangements of the *feé* were under the direction of Mr. Elliot, who was ably assisted by his lieutenants—Mr. Green and Mr. Craig. Not the slightest accident occurred, and everything passed off with the greatest possible success.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 16.—Palm Sunday.
MONDAY, 17.—St. Patrick.
TUESDAY, 18.—Princess Louisa born, 1843.
WEDNESDAY, 19.—Sun rises 6h. 6m., sets 6h. 11m.
THURSDAY, 20.—Maunday Thursday.
FRIDAY, 21.—Good Friday.
SATURDAY, 22.—Southey died, 1843.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 22, 1856.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
10 0 10 50 11 35 Tide 0 15 0 45 1 10 1 30 1 50 2 5 2 20 2 35 2 50 3 5						

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1856.

A VEIL of impenetrable secrecy shrouds the proceedings of the Paris Conferences. The rumours of each day differ from the rumours of the day preceding. At one time there is "hause," and at another there is "baisse," and both the rise and the fall are unwarranted by anything better than the conjectures of speculators and jobbers;—which in their turn are based on nothing more substantial than a smile from Lord Clarendon, a shrug of the shoulders from Count Orloff, or a nod from Count Buol, as impenetrable and solemn a personage as the *Lora Surleigh* of the play. At the end of last week it was feared that there was a "hitch" in the Conferences, and the Funds went down. During the present week hope is in the ascendant, and the Funds have obeyed the favourable impulse. But nothing is known, nor will be, until the Conferences close, when the result will be formally and officially proclaimed. Most people believe that peace will be the result of the negotiations. Yet it is to be feared that the peace will not be of a character to satisfy the British people, however much it may accord with the notions of those who hold the reins of Government in London and Paris. If one thing were needed to confirm the people of this country in their misgivings, it has been supplied by the announcement which has been simultaneously forwarded from Vienna and Berlin, that Prussia has been invited by the French Government to appoint a Plenipotentiary, or Plenipotentiaries, to attend the Conferences, and that Prussia has accepted the invitation. We are loth to believe that the Governments of Great Britain and France have lent themselves to such an act of political cowardice. Yet it is to be feared that the statement is true, and that the Allies have voluntarily—we will not say treacherously—descended from their high and dignified position, and admitted into their councils a secret foe, whose dastardly neutrality prolonged and embittered the war; whose aid and advice are not needed for justice, and still less for honour; and who has neither legal nor moral right to exercise a voice in that settlement of Europe which he has done nothing to expedite and simplify, but very much to retard and complicate. The admission of Prussia to the Conferences is only justifiable upon one supposition;—that the Allies will attempt a perfect settlement and adjustment of the affairs of Europe, inclusive of Poland. Upon that supposition, and the consequent disengagement by Prussia of her share of the plunder of that unhappy country, it may be right that Prussia should have a vote in what so greatly concerns her. Upon no other can we imagine that the Allies have acted rightly in admitting to their councils a Power who wilfully abdicated her high functions as a leading State of Europe when there was work to be done, and a broad path of duty to be honestly and courageously trodden. We shall be glad to learn that the affairs of Poland have entered into the serious contemplation of the Conferences; and that on this account alone the representatives of Frederick William have been summoned to Paris. If not, we wonder if the Prussian Envoy will be able to look in the face the Sardinian Ambassador without a blush, and what account the British Government thinks it will have to render to the British people for so needless, if not so dishonourable, a subserviency to Russian influences, and for so flagrant a bonus upon political cowardice. If any considerations of a personal character connected with the young Prince of Prussia have entered into its calculations in this matter, the public displeasure will only be the more vehement. The mere announcement has already shaken faith in the Conferences; and, if the report be true, will shake faith in persons nearer home who have permitted, if they have not encouraged, the degradation.

The Marchioness delivered this expression of her feeling with much emotion, which was evidently shared by the great majority present. The noble Chairman then proposed "The Health of our Visitors, and Success to the Mining Interest in the county of Durham; coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Hugh Taylor, the chairman of the Coal Exchange, who has kindly honoured this meeting with his presence." The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Mr. Hugh Taylor returned thanks.

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insert the small end of the wedge; for, if this novel claim is in conformity with the legal interpretation of the Act of Parliament, it must in justice be extended to all banks in the United Kingdom, to all discount-houses, and to all bill-brokers. From the letter issued by the Board, and signed "Thomas Keogh," we make the following extract, showing the construction now put upon the Act by the Government:—

It is expressly enacted that in estimating for assessment the amount of profits or gains arising from any business no deduction shall be made on account of any annual interest payable thereout, but that the person carrying on the concern shall be charged with the whole amount of the profits or gains without distinguishing such interest; and that he shall be entitled on payment of interest to deduct the tax thereon. By making the return on the erroneous plan adopted by you the recipients of the interest have escaped their liability to the tax. The Board must, therefore, require you to furnish their surveyor with an amended return of assessment for the current year of the profits of your bank, including the whole of the annual interest which you pay, in order that you may charge the several persons entitled to such interest with the proportion of the tax to which they are liable pursuant to the provisions of the Act.

The bank to which this application has been made objects to the demanded payment, and expresses astonishment that this new interpretation should be given to the statute. It argues that, as money is deposited at call, it may only remain a month, a week, or any other uncertain period, even a single day; so that the allowance made on deposits cannot, under such cases, be treated as "annual interests." It denies that the law will bear the construction put upon it by the Board of Inland Revenue; but, if it does, complains of the invidious selection of a single establishment in a single town to test the validity of a claim hitherto left in abeyance.

This question is one of great importance. The Joint-Stock Banks allow interest on deposits at rates varying with the fluctuation of the Money-market, and according to the period during which it is arranged that the deposits are to remain. Men having spare capital, but who are disinclined to speculate, are content with moderate profits derived from such investments, because they know them to be safe from experience; but if the Income-tax were to ride over the low rate of interest they are content to receive, it is very probable they would withdraw from the banks and seek some private channel concealed from the prying eye of Government. The favourite character of this form of investment is proved from the enormous amount of deposits intrusted to the London Joint-Stock Banks, which, in December, 1855, reached the prodigious sum of £30,093,114. Undoubtedly the full pressure of taxation ought to weigh on banking-houses, as on other mercantile firms; but, if the new rule be enforced against them, it ought to be of universal application. Every house of discount, every bill-broker, and every attorney, should fall within its operation. It appears to us that every house of deposit would have to keep two distinct sets of books—one to show their own profits, the other to show the profits of their depositors. We have called attention to this subject because it has come unexpectedly before the public, and in a very partial and obscure manner; and it is to be hoped that some independent member of the House of Commons will ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer or the law officers of the Crown whether the course adopted by the Board of Inland Revenue is legal.

THE LATE ELECTION FOR BOSTON.

INSTEAD of indulging in any remarks of our own upon the result of the late election for Boston, we prefer to borrow the following from a local journal—the *Boston Guardian*:

We have inaugurated a new era in political life—we have sent a real "representative man" to a house of nominees—we have discarded and refused to be served by more of that "special pleading" of which that House is but the most exalted arena; and, in bidding defiance to the thousand-and-one influences of bribery, intimidation, and corruption, we have torn the last crutch from the tottering hands of Toryism, and have cleared the field as far as in us lies for a new order of things, and have opened up a brighter prospect for the fortunes of our country.

We have returned a man pledged to advocate the Ballot;—forty more such men in the House, and every elector in the land shall, without let or hindrance, help the progress of reform.

We have returned a man whose great desire and whose peculiar interest, too, lie in the immediate enlargement of secular education—education, that invigorating draught, ever close to our lips, and ever dashed aside by the "short-armed ignorance of theological bigotry."

We have

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE DULWICH COLLEGE CHARITY MEETING AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.—A very large gathering of the theatrical profession took place on Thursday last, at the Adelphi Theatre, to memorialise the Secretary of State of the Home Department to insert in the Report of the Charity Commissioners the proposition of Mr. Benjamin Webster—to admit a certain number of actors and actresses, and actors' children, to the benefit of "God's Gift" at Dulwich, founded and endowed by Edward Alleyn, the friend of Shakespeare. Alleyn was himself an actor, and proprietor of the Fortune Theatre; and endowed Dulwich College during his lifetime with the large sum of £800 a year. The income of "God's Gift" has increased very largely of late years, being now about £8000 per annum; and it has been proposed by Mr. Webster that, in the redistribution of the funds about to take place, under the direction of the Charity Commissioners, the poor player should be considered to the extent set forth in the annexed resolutions. Mr. Charles Dickens, with his usual kindness, took the chair, and we regret the space at our disposal this week does not allow us to report in full his excellent address, which delighted his auditors. Mr. Webster said that, at length the history of the charity and grounds upon which he proved the claim of the actor to a share in "God's Gift." The resolutions were carried unanimously; and the meeting, which was composed of nearly all the leading actresses and actors in the metropolis, thus showed the great interest felt by all the members of the theatrical profession in the success of Mr. Webster's application. A memorial has also been presented to the Charity Commissioners, signed by upwards of seventeen hundred London and provincial performers. The resolutions were as follows:—

Proposed by Mr. Keeley and seconded by Mr. Buckstone—

1. That this meeting has before it the following proposition made by Mr. B. Webster to the Commissioners of Charities:—That one actor and actress, indoor pensioners. That one actor and actress as out-door pensioners. That four children of actors and actresses be placed upon the foundation of the upper school. That four children of actors and actresses upon the foundation of the lower school. And that the selection of the most deserving claimants to be made by the committee of the Drury Lane, Covent Garden, General Theatrical Fund, and General Dramatic, Equestrian, and Musical Sick Fund Association, as most likely to be acquainted with the merits of the applicants; and that this meeting is of opinion that such proposition involves a just, reasonable, and moderate recognition of the claims of poor players to participate in the great extension of Dulwich College proposed by the said commissioners.

Proposed by Mr. Harley and seconded by Mr. T. P. Cooke—

2. That a memorial be presented to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Home Department, praying that Mr. Webster's proposition, already appended by the Commissioners of Charity to their report, with their recommendation in its favour, be embodied as part of any Act of Parliament that may be prepared for carrying into effect the recommendation of the Commissioners of Charities in reference to Dulwich College.

Proposed by Mr. Robert Bell and seconded by Mr. Albert Smith—

3. That the memorial mentioned in the last resolution be couched in the following terms (see Resolution 1), and that Messrs. Webster, C. Kean, Buckstone, and A. Wigan be requested to present it.

Proposed by Mr. Creswick and seconded by Sir Joseph Paxton—

4. That the following gentlemen be appointed a committee to communicate with members of Parliament known to be interested in the drama or dramatic literature, entreating them to support the object of this meeting, when the introduction of, any Act of Parliament on the subject of Dulwich College shall afford them that opportunity:—Messrs. Webster, Keeley, Wigan, Buckstone, and T. P. Cooke.

Proposed by Mr. Phelps and seconded by Mr. A. Wigan—

5. That the thanks of this meeting are cordially tendered to the conductors of the public journals for their generous advocacy of the claims of the actor to participate in some of the advantages derivable from Dulwich College.

We propose next week to give a fuller report of the meeting and an Engraving of the scene it presented.

DINNER TO THE AMERICAN MINISTER AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—A grand dinner was given on Tuesday evening at the Maasong-house, London, to a numerous party, including the American Minister, Mr. Buchanan. A large number of members of Parliament were present. After the usual loyal toasts, the Lord Mayor proposed "The Health of the Minister of the United States," who was about to take his departure from this country, his successor being on his way to England. In expressing his pride at having Mr. Buchanan as his guest, he said he looked upon the interests of the Republic of America and of England to be identical, America being an offshoot of this great country, of which both people ought ever to be proud. Mr. Buchanan replied in a friendly speech, in which he expressed a confident belief that the two countries would be able to settle the temporary differences which now existed between them.

EXCURSION TICKETS.—On Saturday last, in the Southwark County Court, an action was brought against the South-Western Railway Company by Mr. Mogg, a gentleman residing in Albion-street, Hyde Park, to recover the sum of £5 under the following circumstances:—The plaintiff stated that, on the 15th of August last, he took a first-class ticket at the Waterloo Station by the Southampton Railway throughout to Paris, *via* Southampton and Havre, for which he paid the advertised price (2s.), his intention being to witness the reception by the Emperor of the Queen of England. When the train arrived at Southampton there was no conveyance provided by the company to take him to the steamboat, and he was obliged to pay for the omnibus himself. When he got on board the vessel he found it so crowded that there was no bed for him, and though the steward offered him a mattress on the floor, he could not lie in such a place, and went on deck, where he stayed all night in one of the boats. This gave him a severe illness, and compelled him, when arriving at Havre, to stay two days at the hotel there before he could proceed to Paris. On the French side of the water he was also obliged to pay for the conveyance of himself and luggage to the railway station. For these various disbursements, want of accommodation, trouble, and annoyance he had been put to, he brought the action to recover £5. His Honour said that the case was one of vast importance to the public. He thought the railway company were bound to take the passengers throughout to Paris, according to their contract, and there should be no outlay on the part of the passengers for travelling expenses beyond the 2s. Whether every passenger was entitled to a bed he could not say, but certainly every one was entitled to proper shelter; and, under all the circumstances, he should give a verdict for the plaintiff for the whole amount claimed.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.—The paper for next Monday evening will be on "The Bank of England, its present Constitution and Operations." By W. C. Jellicoe.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

The Queen has sent to the Commander of the Forces ten portable boxes of a library for the use of the troops. These books are trusted, by her Majesty's desire, to the honourable keeping of the soldiers, who will remember that loss or damage hurts their comrades and their own good name. They will be distributed, in turn, to each division.

The Great Western left Southampton for the East on Wednesday. She took out an artillery force, also some Sappers and Miners and Royal Engineers, and a quantity of siege tools for the Sappers. The Hydaspes left that port on Sunday. She took out an artillery force with a few serg. ants belonging to the Connaught Rangers.

On Saturday last Messrs. Scott and Sons, of Greenock, launched another of the mortar-boats which that firm is building for the Government. Like the former, this vessel is constructed in the most substantial and even ponderous manner. She is 900 tons burthen, and her magazines will contain 1000 shells, with the requisite store of powder, &c.

The preparations for war continue at Woolwich undiminished. Last week so great was the number of Artillery which started thence for the Crimea, that twelve special trains, independently of the ordinary departures, were dispatched from the Arsenal station to Southampton direct. Two trains were occupied with gun-carriages, and one train conveyed the baggage alone. The horses consisted of 580.

On Monday morning a portion of the men as detailed to leave the garrison at Woolwich, to make room for the seventeen companies which are daily expected home from the seat of war, left the Royal Artillery Barracks, and proceeded *en route* to Shoeburyness. It consisted of four non-commissioned officers and 70 men of the 3rd and 4th battalion. The remainder will leave as early as possible, as the seventeen companies are expected to arrive daily in the steam-transport *Impératrice*.

A large number of mortars have recently arrived at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, from the works of Messrs. A. and M. D. Grissell, Regent's Canal. These mortars weigh five tons and a half, are one foot thick, and will propel a shell a distance of two miles and a half.

A body of about 400 men of the British German Legion arrived at Portsmouth by rail from Aldershot on Monday morning, and embarked on board the steam-transport *Alps*. These are the men whose enlistment in the United States (the majority, however, having enlisted in Canada) has been the cause of so much misunderstanding between this country and the United States Government.

A brass mortar was cast in the Royal Arsenal on Saturday last which when finished will weigh no less than seven tons, and is brass mortars of a 12-inch shell. This is stated to be the largest brass mortar ever cast, and several of a similar description are to be manufactured.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THERE was a great gathering on Wednesday last at the annual general meeting of the Literary Fund. Public notice had been given of an important motion for the reformation of the society—a motion emanating from a well known number of literary gentlemen, well-wishers to the fund when it was conducted on the principles of its founder, but active and openly-expressed opponents to it "as now conducted." For the first time since the formation of the society notices were issued to its members of the annual general meeting of the fund. About sixty gentlemen attended, and fifty-one remained to vote. The reformatory motion was lost by a majority of 21; the numbers being— for Mr. Dickens and his friends, 30; for Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street, and his friends, 51. All the booksellers, printers, and stationers present voted with Mr. Murray; all the authors present (Mr. Robert Bell excepted) with Mr. Dickens. Mr. Dickens and his friends are desirous that the management of the Literary Fund should be intrusted entirely to literary men. Mr. Monckton Milner opposed any change of the kind, and met the arguments put forward by Mr. Dickens by a circumstance within his own knowledge. An author of eminence, to whom the society has occasionally granted relief, observed to him that, if he had to lay his case for relief before his brother authors, he would rather starve than do so. This, perhaps, is a little over-sensitive. And yet this author by profession has been, and is, in the habit of submitting his claims for relief to a committee on which publishers are allowed to sit, and do sit—the very men to whom he would sell his writings; and who, of course, will not think the better of him because he is in need, or offer him more for his MS. because he is in want. Publishers and booksellers are the very last men who should be allowed to form a part of the committee to whom the relief of distressed authors should be intrusted. They do not admit authors into the Company of Stationers—the only London company entirely restricted to members of its own craft. There is no entry for authors into that mysterious company—no poet can invest his little savings in that rich, restricted society, and receive his thirty per cent on the sum he has invested. Publishers will not believe that authors are *now* as perfectly capable of attending to their own class as publishers themselves. But they are. Mr. Dickens will finally triumph in this good cause.

The trustees of the British Museum submitted the names of two persons to her Majesty for the vacant office of Principal Librarian and Secretary to the British Museum. The names submitted were those of Mr. Panizzi, the present Keeper of the Printed Books in the British Museum, and of Mr. John Mitchell Kemble, son of Charles Kemble, the actor, and himself a very celebrated Saxon scholar. Great interest, we are told, was used for both parties. Her Majesty finally selected Mr. Panizzi, who has accordingly received the appointment. As we previously hinted, Mr. John Winter Jones will succeed Mr. Panizzi as Keeper of the Printed Books; and another highly-deserving officer, Mr. Watts, will succeed Mr. Jones. These promotions will, we are glad to hear, give Mr. Bullen a lift. Indeed, the whole arrangement is received with satisfaction in the Printed Book Department, and by the public generally. Mr. Panizzi may now recover some lost popularity by improving the salaries throughout the Museum—all very much too small; and Mr. Winter Jones, by giving us a printed catalogue of any portion of the Library, may confer a public benefit that scholars will be thankful for. Could not the trustees, it is asked, find a suitable place in the British Museum for so accomplished a scholar as Mr. Kemble? Parliament never grudges a vote for the Museum; and Mr. Kemble deserves well of his country. The situation should be one that is well paid, and with a duty attached to it for which Mr. Kemble's studies peculiarly fit him. The whole establishment of the Museum requires to be remodelled.

A speech and paper war is waging between the architect of the Royal Exchange in London and the architect of the Town-hall at Hamburg. The scene of their spoken contest is the Royal Institute of British Architects—the theatre of their written war is the columns of the *Builder*. The point in dispute is whether Classic or Gothic architecture is the best adapted for the requirements of the Church of England. Mr. Tite is for the Classic style, Mr. Scott for the Gothic style. Both find glaring examples of ill-contrived edifices, and both exhibit a little temper in conducting their controversy. In the midst of the argument Mr. Petit enters the lists and deals some heavy blows against Gothic architecture as now practised. Indeed, he abandons his once-loved style in a way that has startled all who remember how ardent he was in the Gothic cause.

Lord Stanhope has carried his motion in the Lords, and one of the three estates of the realm has sanctioned the formation of a collection of portraits consisting, as far as possible, of the most eminent persons in British history. The proposition is one that deserves to be carried out, but the sum asked for—five hundred pounds a year—is surely too small. Lord Stanhope was perhaps afraid of asking for a larger sum. He had the fear of the Chancellor of the Exchequer before him, and doubtless thought that a thousand pounds would be refused where five hundred would be conceded. His speech was sensible and to the point.

Readers of British history who go with Lord Stanhope in this movement are hoping that his Lordship will not restrict his collection to persons eminent by their virtues, their mental attainments, or by actions of public utility alone. The careful reader of English history will desire to see Guy Fawkes, Felton, Titus Oates, and Judge Jeffreys. Will his Lordship admit such peculiar worthies? We hope he will. He might have, like Madame Tussaud, a Chamber of Horrors. A gallery of portraits is always instructive and agreeable. Remember the series of portraits at Rainham of the Low Country soldiers who fought under Sir Francis Vere—pictures actually painted for Vere himself. Remember the Windsor Beauties of Sir Peter Lely, and the Hampton Court Beauties of Sir Godfrey Kneller. Of a like interest is the series of portraits of the Kit-Kat Club now at Bayfordbury. At Greenwich may be seen the portraits of the English Captains who fought the Dutch under Van Tromp and De Ruyter—a series painted for King James II. when Duke of York. And who that has ever been at Windsor has forgotten the Waterloo Gallery? We shall watch the progress of Lord Stanhope's plan with a lively interest.

The sons of the late Samuel Williams, the eminent designer and engraver on wood, have just presented to the Trustees of the British Museum a large number of fine proofs from the works of their late father; showing the progress of the untaught genius in his art from almost boyhood to his later years.

THE RAGLAN MEMORIAL.—A meeting of the subscribers to the "Raglan Memorial" was held on Thursday in the Theatre of the United Service Institution, for the purpose of presenting to the present Lord Raglan the title-deeds of an estate near Raglan Castle, purchased by subscription, as a testimonial of the respect and esteem in which the private character of the late noble Lord was held; as also for the vast renown he had achieved as a military commander. The meeting was numerously attended by the subscribers, amongst whom were the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Richmond, Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, and several other general officers lately serving in the Crimea. The Duke of Richmond, who was called to the chair, read a statement drawn up by the committee expressive of the feeling of the subscribers in presenting the testimonial as an heirloom to his Lordship. Lord Raglan expressed his grateful thanks to the subscribers for the honour conferred on him.

FIRE AT MR. SCOTT RUSSELL'S SHIPYARD, MILLWALL.—On Wednesday afternoon a fire broke out on the ship-building premises of Mr. Scott Russell, Millwall, Poplar. Notwithstanding the most active exertions of the firemen, the whole of the workshops connected with the mills, the joiners' and planers' houses, as well as the mills themselves, were totally destroyed, with their contents. The loss is very heavy. The origin of the disaster is not known. This makes the third serious conflagration which has taken place in the yard since 1854. The Leviathan ship now building was, fortunately, not injured.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Queen has forwarded £20 and the Prince Consort £10, to the fund now being raised for the addition of a swimming bath to the other advantages of the Royal Naval School at New Cross.

The French Emperor has conferred the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour on General Count Lovenheim, who for nearly forty years has filled the post of Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of Sweden and Norway at Paris, in consideration of his public services.

A letter from Berlin, of the 6th inst., says:—"Prince Frederick William, only son of the Prince of Prussia, and heir presumptive to the Crown, will pay a visit to England in May next, and it will be of some duration."

The confirmation of her Royal Highness the Princess Royal will take place in her Majesty's Private Chapel, in Windsor Castle, on Thursday, the 20th inst. The King of the Belgians (who is godfather to her Royal Highness), the members of the Royal Family, and a select circle, have been invited to be present at the ceremony.

A solemn service and requiem were performed on Monday at the chapel attached to the Bavarian Embassy, in Warwick-street, for the late Duke of Norfolk. The service was attended by most of the Roman Catholic nobility in town, and by several distinguished foreigners.

The Emperor Francis Joseph returned on the 2nd to Vienna from Prague.

At the Union (Oxford), on Monday last, the question for discussion, "Has Lord Aberdeen merited the esteem and gratitude of the country?" was lost on a division, by a majority of 28, the numbers being—aye, 8; noes, 36.

Count Chreptowitsch, the present representative of Russia at Brussels, is spoken of as the future Minister of Russia at Paris after the conclusion of peace. M. de Kisseff will, it is generally understood, proceed to Rome, and it seems equally certain that Baron Brunnow will not return to London.

After many years' retirement from public life, the Duke of Buckingham appeared at Aylesbury, on Friday, to preside at a special meeting of the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association, founded in 1833, under his auspices.

The Bishop of Ripon was at Berlin last week, for the purpose of confirming the children of English residents there.

Count Orloff and Count Buol continue to show marked coldness in their intercourse with each other. At an official soirée last Monday night they were not seen to speak, or even to bow as they met.

The Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia has placed 150 guineas at the disposal of the Government to present a sword to General Williams, who is a native of that province.

A Secret Consistory is reported to have been summoned at Rome on Monday next, at which Prince Lucien Bonaparte is to be admitted a Bishop in *partibus*.

The eleventh anniversary festival of the Royal General Theatrical Fund takes place on Monday next, under the presidency of Lord Teaterden.

The Russian Chancellor of State Jakowleff, who is the proprietor of large metallurgical works in that country, has given the Government about 40,000 pounds (the pound is about 40lbs.) of metal for the extraordinary wants of the army and navy.

Mr. Hindley, M.P., is to be presented with a testimonial, consisting of his portrait, at the Town-hall, Ashton, on Easter Monday, the 24th instant.

The New Prussian *Gazette* announces that Prince Peter of Oldenburg has been named Governor of the Russian provinces of the Baltic.

Gustavus Heine, the brother of Henry Heine, who lately died at Paris, is about to erect to the memory of the late a monument which will cost 10,000 f.

The annual dinner of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern this day (Saturday); Lord Stanley in the chair.

A marble monumental tablet in memory of the late Colonel Yea, who died so nobly before Sebastopol last summer, has been erected in the parish church of St. James's, Taunton.

The indictment in the case of the Rev. Mr. Benson, the clergyman charged with solemnising matrimony between parties previously married under the Dissenters' Marriage Act, will not be tried at the present Oxford assizes.

On Monday last the President of Police, Berlin, Herr Von Hinckeldey, was shot in a duel by Herr Von Rochow, whom he had felt obliged to challenge.

Mr. Francis Russell, advocate, is appointed private secretary to the Lord Advocate of Scotland.

Mr. Saunders, of the Western Circuit, and Recorder of Devonport, has been appointed to the Recordership of Plymouth, in the place of Sir William Carpenter Rowe, now Chief Justice of Ceylon.

The property of the Marquis Georgio Pallavino, lately under sequestration, has been restored to him by the Austrian Government, in execution of the late decree revoking the sequestrations laid on the property of political refugees.

The University of Dublin has conferred the degree of Doctor of Medicine, *honoris causa*, upon Dr. Andrew Smith.

The last news from St. Petersburg is that General Williams had left Tiflis for Moscow in recovered health.

It is understood that the trial of William Palmer, of Rugeley will be fixed for the May session, at the Central Court, under the new Criminal Bill, which will shortly become an Act of Parliament.

The Chamberlain and Treasurer of the Bristol Corporation, who filled that office for fifty years, is said to have misappropriated the Corporation funds to the extent of £4000.

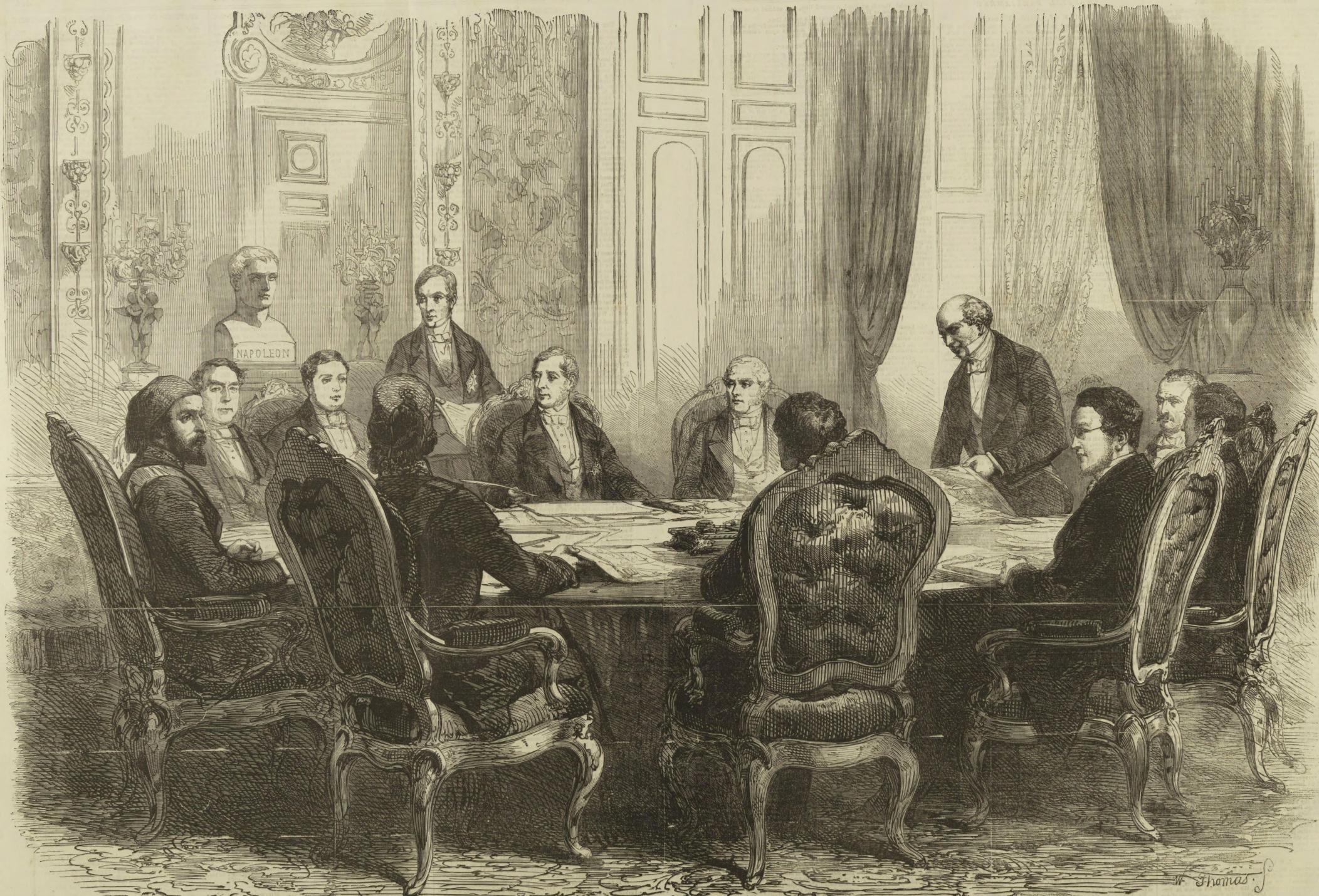
Mdlle. Rachel has received numerous visits from distinguished personages since her return to Paris. Notwithstanding the losses which she is said to have sustained by her visit to America, she continues the embellishments of her hotel in the Rue Trudon on the most expensive scale.

The Great Beer Question again occupies a prominent place among subjects awaiting the attention of the Bavarian Legislature. There are no less than eleven bills, motions, and resolutions before the Chamber of Deputies at Munich for improving the terms on which the subjects of King Max may drink their beer.

The Committee of the Crystal Palace intend to devote a portion of the building to form a gallery for the exhibition of pictures. They are to be the works by living painters of all the schools in Europe.

The Russian Government is about to establish journals, as organs of its views, in the various capitals of Europe. *Le Nord* is understood to have been a failure.

The Governor of Vienna has given notice to the journals of that capital not to publish any articles unfavourable to the Concordat, or any attacks against the establishment of the Lloyd's



ALI PACHA.

BARON DE BOURQUENNEY.

COUNT WALEWSKI.

LORD COWLEY.

COUNT BUOL.

EARL OF CLARENDON.

BARON BRUNNOW.

COUNT DE CAVOUR.

COUNT ORLOFF.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE, AT PARIS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE PEACE CONFERENCES.

The diplomats met on Saturday last, and again on Monday and Wednesday, but nothing has transpired as to the result of their deliberations. The sitting of Monday is said to have produced no sensible progress in the negotiations, the whole of the day having been occupied in discussions of a general character. This is now the third week of the Conferences, and those who profess to be acquainted with what is going on affirm that little progress has been made. The French Emperor is beginning to grumble at the waste of time, and insists on their getting on more energetically.

A despatch from Berlin, dated Wednesday evening, says that "Prussia has been invited, in the name of the Congress, and for reasons of European interest, to send representatives to the Paris Conferences, and she will accept the invitation."

On Monday Count Walewski gave a grand diplomatic dinner, at which the members of the Congress were present. In the evening there was a concert, supported by MM. Mario, Bonnecé, Roger, Zucchini, and Madames Grisi, Borghi-Mamo, and Cabel. The salons of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were blazing with light till past one o'clock on Tuesday morning.

Upon the two preceding pages we have engraved a sitting of the Peace Conference. Of the Plenipotentiaries—the Earl of Clarendon and Baron de Bourqueney—memoirs appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week; of Count Walewski, in No. 688; Count Buol, in No. 739; Baron Brunnow, in No. 688; and Count de Cavour, in No. 772.

Lord Cowley may be said to have been cradled in diplomacy: his father, the first Peer of that title, having, as Sir Henry Wellesley, distinguished himself at nearly every Court in Europe during the last great war. His Lordship commenced his official career in 1824, as an Attaché to the Embassy at Vienna, and in 1829 was promoted to the Hague as paid Attaché. From this period his promotion was regular, and proceeded with his diplomatic education and experience. In 1852 he succeeded Lord Normanby as Ambassador to the Imperial Court of France. The association of Lord Cowley with Lord Clarendon, as joint Plenipotentiary to the Conferences on the part of Great Britain, will tend to facilitate the proper settlement and co-ordination of many arrangements which must necessarily succeed any agreement upon the great points under discussion.

ALI PACHA commenced his career in an humble employment in the public offices of the Sublime Porte, and, by dint of a severe application to serious studies, he has raised himself through all the intermediate steps to the Grand Viziership. He bears also the reputation of being the most erudite scholar of his nation.

COUNT ORLOFF, Aide-de-Camp General, General of Cavalry, Commander of the Military Household of the Emperor, and member of the Council of the Empire, is about seventy years of age, but is still active and healthy. He took part in almost all the wars at the beginning of the century. Wounded at Austerlitz and at the battle of Borodino, he was made Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor Alexander I. In 1825 he had reached the rank of General, and in that quality commanded the regiment of Horse Guards which on the 26th September first hastened to repress the *émeute* at St. Petersburg. On that occasion he displayed great courage and devotedness, which secured him the friendship of the Emperor Nicholas. In 1828 he commanded in Turkey the Division of Light Horse. In 1829 he was nominated Plenipotentiary, and signed the treaty of Adrianople. In 1833 he was at the head of the expedition which saved Constantinople from the victorious army of Ibrahim Pacha, and he signed the treaty of Unkar Skelessi. Since 1845 he has replaced the late Count de Benkendorff as chief of the third section of the private chancery of the Emperor, and as head of the gendarmerie of the empire. This place gives Count Orloff free access at every hour of the day to the Emperor, and the right to speak to him of every person and of every event.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LIEUT-GENERAL SIR JOHN HUNTER LITTLE, G.C.B.

THIS gallant and able officer, who died at his seat, Bigdon, South Devon, after a short illness, on the 18th ult., was the representative of an ancient Cheshire family. He was the son of Thomas Littler, Esq., and was born in the village of Tarvin, in Cheshire, on the 6th of January, 1783. His home was Nantwich, and he received his education in the neighbouring village Grammar School of Acton, under the mastership of the Rev. Dr. Devonport. In 1800 Littler obtained his Cadetship, and immediately left England for India to join his regiment: on his voyage in the *Kent* East Indianman the vessel was captured by a French privateer, whose crew took possession of the ship, and placed all the passengers of the *Kent* on board a small pinnace, and, with some dates and water, they were left to accomplish the remainder of their voyage to India, which they fortunately did.

In the East, Littler went through the campaigns of 1804-5 with Lord Lake in Upper India. He subsequently volunteered to the expedition which sailed for Java in 1811, and there obtained a high reputation for valour, being present at the assault and capture of Batavia and Fort Cornelius. On the restoration of Java to the Dutch, in 1816, he returned to Bengal, where he went on the Staff of the Marquis of Hastings, then Governor-General of Infantry. In 1824 he was made Colonel of the 36th Regiment of Bengal Native India, which command he retained till his death. In 1841 he was promoted to the rank of Major-General. In April, 1843, he was placed over the garrison and district of Agra. In November of the same year he was appointed to lead the army of Gwalior. On the 29th of December following the troops under Major-General Littler brilliantly carried the batteries of Maharsipore and Chouda. For this the Major-General was named in the despatches, and on the order of the day received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, and was created a K.C.B. During the engagement he was slightly wounded, and had two horses shot under him. In 1845 he for some time held Ferozeshah with 7000 troops against 50,000 Sikhs; and, on the 20th of September, opened communications with the main body of the army under Sir Henry Hardinge, by a movement well conceived and admirably executed. At Ferozeshah he again had two horses shot under him, and his Aide fell by his side. His conduct on that memorable day earned for him the sobriquet of the "Hero of Ferozeshah." For his services in the whole of this campaign he was again thanked by both Houses of Parliament, and was created G.C.B. In 1845 he was also made Member of the Council of India. In 1847 he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the troops beyond the Sutlej. In 1849 Sir John Littler became President of the Council of India and Deputy-Governor of Bengal, and was presented by the inhabitants of Calcutta with a service of plate, accompanied by an address. He returned to England in 1851, having been in the East India Company's service for fifty-three years. Sir John Littler's family is one of the oldest in Cheshire. The name is derived from Littleover, in that county, near which place the Littlers originally resided, and who are said in an old chronicler to be "knowne for the heate of thyre tempers." Robert Littler, Esq., of Tarvin, who died in 1570, was one of the most influential proprietors in Cheshire, and from him Sir J. Littler is directly descended. Sir John married, in 1827, Helen Olympia, only daughter of Col. H. Stewart, whose father claimed the Earldom of Orkney; by this lady, who survives him, Sir John has had issue four daughters. Sir John was last week interred in the family vault at Tarvin, near Chester. During the funeral not a single shop was opened nor a blind raised in the whole town of Tarvin, such was the respect in which he was held in his native place.

GENERAL GEORGE WRIGHT.

GENERAL GEORGE WRIGHT, Colonel Commandant of the Royal Engineers, died on the 5th inst. at Cheltenham, after a career of military activity of more than sixty years. The gallant General was born in 1776; he obtained the rank of Second Lieut. in 1796: since then, he saw and shared in much hard service. He was in the West Indies during the war with France, from 1800 to 1805, during which occurred the capture of the islands of St. Lucia and Tobago from the enemy. He was also in North America, Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick during the whole of the last war with the United States, under Generals Sir George Prevost and Sir John Sherbrooke; and while with the latter General he filled the office of Deputy Quartermaster-General of the Forces in the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. He became a Major-General in 1837. He volunteered his services to Ceylon during the rebellion of the Kandian provinces; and on his return to his native country he paid an official visit to the Court of Persia. He was made a General the 20th June, 1854, having been previously appointed a Colonel-Commandant of the Royal Engineers in 1851.

J. R. CAMPBELL, ESQ.

JOHN RENTON CAMPBELL, Esq., of Lamberton and Mordington, in the county of Berwick, died at Malta, on the 25th February, in the forty-second year of his age. Mr. Campbell represented the borough of Berwick-on-Tweed in the last Parliament upon Conservative principles. His large landed estates in Berwickshire revert to his next brother, Archibald Colin Campbell, late a Major in the 42nd Highlanders, who now takes the additional name of Renton. The Major has lately returned from the Crimea in ill health, after being present at Alma, Balaklava, and Sebastopol—where he much distinguished himself for his bravery, and for his unceasing kindness and attention to the men under his command.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The Earl of MELMESBURY gave notice that, on the expiration of the Armistice, he should call their Lordships' attention to the fall of Kars.

LEASE AND SALE OF SETTLED ESTATES BILL.—On the motion for going into Committee on this bill, Lord ST. LEONARDS drew the attention of the House to what had been done by the Government to amend the law and its administration. The noble Lord criticised the various plans lately submitted to Parliament for the reform of these laws, particularly that relating to the transfer of the Encumbered Estates Court of Ireland to the Court of Chancery in Ireland.—The LORD CHANCELLOR having replied to Lord St. Leonards, the bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

Mr. HERBERT INGRAM took the oaths and his seat for Boston.

CAPTAIN DOWBIGGIN.—Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to a suggestion from Sir De Lacy Evans, put the House in possession of the words of the telegraphic message sent to General Simpson, in reference to Mr. Dowbiggin, by Lord Panmure (his uncle). The message was—"I recommend young Dowbiggin to your attention, if he is fit, and you have a vacancy." The second was from General Simpson—"In the trenches last night the Russians made a strong attack to regain the cemetery, but we were prepared, and Captain Dowbiggin and his party behaved admirably."

ST. PANCRAS WORKHOUSE.—Mr. BOUVERIE, in answer to Sir J. Pakington, mentioned that the guardians of St. Pancras, elected under the local act, were taking measures for improving the state of matters in the workhouse. These measures would undergo his consideration.

THE BAY ISLANDS.—Mr. LABOUCHERE, in answer to Mr. M. Gibson, stated that the Bay Islands had been erected into a colony by warrant dated March 20, 1852.

LOCAL DUES.—Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Sir F. Thesiger, mentioned that it was intended to amend Mr. Lowe's motion for a Select Committee to inquire into the question of Local Dues, so as to meet the views of all parties.

POLICE (COUNTIES AND BOROUGHS) BILL.

Sir G. GREY, in moving the second reading of the Police (Counties and Boroughs) Bill, availed himself of the opportunity to explain anew its objects, scope, and provisions, with the view of removing the misconception which prevailed on these points, and which threatened a determined opposition, not to certain clauses, but to the whole bill. These explanations were accordingly given, and an array of facts presented, with a view to show the urgent necessity which existed for rendering the police force throughout England more efficient. Several modifications in some of the clauses, intended to meet prominent objections, were also mentioned.

Mr. C. FORSTER did not think that the modifications announced by the Home Secretary were such as would justify him in withdrawing his amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. Although the boroughs had been excluded, the principle of centralisation would still apply to the counties; and, at a convenient time, that principle might be extended to the boroughs. Centralisation, however, still applied to both counties and boroughs; and hence the necessity for resuming the measure on its principle.

Captain SCOBELL denounced the bill, declaring that it was part and parcel of the plot to do away with the unpaid magistracy, and add patronage to the Minister. He would vote for measures which conferred additional rights upon the people, but he would never consent to diminish or control the rights already existing. The proposed measure might do well enough for Naples, but it would not suit England.

Sir H. STRACEY did not share in the apprehensions entertained by the opponents of the bill as to its probable working. Very little additional power would be placed by the measure in the hands of the Secretary of State, and its enactments generally would tend to improve the police arrangements of the country.

Sir G. FECHELL said the speech of the Home Secretary, elaborate as it was, had failed to remove his objections to the bill. The town of Brighton would be seriously injured by it.

Mr. PACKE could see nothing in the bill (as modified) which justified the opposition of borough members.

Sir J. WALMSLEY asserted that the boroughs had no objection to the most efficient regulations being adopted as regarded the management of the police; but they objected to the interference of the Secretary of State in such matter. A case for interference may have been made out as regarded counties, but no case whatever had been made out as regarded boroughs.

Mr. J. G. SMYTH admitted that the bill would be improved by the proposed modifications, but thought the better course would be to withdraw the bill and introduce another.

Mr. BENTINCK suggested, as an improvement, that a minimum number of policemen should be named, founded upon the number of inhabitants in the respective districts.

Mr. W. J. FOX joined in the recommendation to the Home Secretary to withdraw the bill and introduce another. It was admitted on all hands that the police in counties stood in need of improvement and extension. There was no evidence of dissatisfaction as regarded the police of boroughs.

Mr. HENLEY advised the boroughs to keep close by the counties, so that a combined movement may be made against provisions which injuriously affected both. In favour of the bill he had heard a great deal of opinion; but what he wanted was facts, to show him what would be gained by adopting the measure before he was asked to take that course.

Sir W. HEATHCOTE did not consider the proposed interference was so great as had been represented. It amounted to this—that, in return for certain financial advantages to be derived from the State, the counties and boroughs were to be subjected to a certain amount of Government supervision. The bill ought certainly to be read a second time.

Mr. J. B. SMITH could not agree to the second reading. The measure was a direct assault upon the principle of self-government, and he deeply regretted that it should have proceeded from his (the Ministerial) side of the House.

Mr. RICE maintained that there was no invasion attempted in the bill of the rights or liberties of the boroughs. Borough members were frightened at a shadow.

Mr. DEEDES opposed the bill. He saw no necessity for any such compulsory measure.

Mr. MUNTZ advised the Home Secretary to withdraw his "mutilated bill."

Mr. WARNER saw nothing in the bill (as modified) which should rouse the opposition of borough members.

Mr. BARROW, Mr. COBBETT, and Mr. KNIGHT opposed the bill; Mr. CALEY supported the second reading.

Sir G. GREY, in reference to the suggestion that the measure should be withdrawn, stated that he could not take that course. If the House agreed to the second reading, he would introduce the amendments he had mentioned in Committee.

On a division the numbers were—for the second reading, 259; against it, 106: a majority for the second reading, 153.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE DEFECTIVE MORTARS.

The Earl of DERRY put a question to the Minister of War with respect to a statement made by Mr. MONSELL, that mortars had been supplied to the Government by one of the contractors in which a piece of iron had been inserted to conceal a flaw; and he asked the name of the parties who supplied those mortars.

Lord PANMURE was sorry to say that too good grounds existed for the statement of Mr. MONSELL. The mortars in question were supplied by Messrs. GRISSELL, and passed the primary proof, but on ten rounds being fired from them they burst. That led to the discovery of the insertion of a piece of metal screwed into the mortar in such a skilful manner that it covered the flaw; and on examination a similar flaw was found in others of them. It followed as a matter of course that the Government would not enter into any further contract with that firm, but whether they could proceed against them at law was a question which he was not yet able to answer.

The Agricultural Statistics Bill, the Mutiny Bill, the Marine Mutiny Bill, the Consolidated Fund (£26,000,000) Bill, the Drainage Advances Act Amendment Bill, and the Delamere Forest Bill, were read a second time. The Leases and Sale of Settled Estates Bill was read a third time and passed.—A bill for amending the County Court Act was read a first time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

At four o'clock there were only thirty-two members present, and the House therefore stood adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS (SCOTLAND) BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of the Reformatory Schools (Scotland) Bill, Mr. MAGUIRE complained that no provision was made for the instruction of Roman Catholic children in their own faith in the reformatories which the bill was designed to establish. There were 250,000 Catholics in Scotland, who practically found no representation in the Legislature, and whose interests, he contended, were in consequence neglected.

Mr. BOWYER concurred in the views expressed by Mr. Maguire, and insisted that separate instruction on all topics involving religious belief should be provided for the members of every sect.

Mr. DRUMMOND retorted upon the Roman Catholics the charge of urging to extreme lengths their attempts at proselytism. He declared, however, that he had no faith in reformatory schools.

Mr. G. GREY pointed out that the bill contained provisions for the removal of children from the reformatories to other institutions, which, he submitted, supplied the means of accomplishing everything desired by the advocates of the Roman Catholic children.

Ultimately the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed *pro forma* on Thursday.

The Bankruptcy (Scotland) Bill was read a second time.

Mr. DILLWYNE obtained leave to bring in a bill to provide for the better prevention and punishment of aggravated assaults upon women and children. The bill was afterwards read a first time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

TORTURE IN INDIA.—The Earl of ALBEMARLE gave notice that on Monday, the 14th of April, it was his intention to present a petition from the inhabitants of the Presidency of Madras, praying for the abolition of the practice of torture in that Presidency, and to move certain resolutions binding the House to take every step calculated to abolish that practice. He also gave notice that he would, early after the Easter recess, ask certain questions of her Majesty's Government relative to the cases of torture said to have been inflicted on subjects of that Presidency for the purpose of raising revenue.

THE FALL OF KARS.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, having referred to certain omissions in the correspondence relating to the fall of Kars, which had been laid upon the table, asked whether it was the intention of the Government to supply those omissions before the subject was brought under discussion?—Lord WODEHOUSE was understood to observe that it would not be convenient for the Government to revise those papers.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH expressed his surprise that the explanation on this subject had not been given by the Secretary for War. He said that it was well known that before the investment of Kars nothing had been done by the Allied Powers for the defence of that place. But he wanted to know what had been done by them after the investment of that fortress. In reply to the Earl of Malmesbury, Lord WODEHOUSE stated that a correspondence had taken place on the part of her Majesty's Government with the Turkish Government with respect to General WOODHOUSE.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.—The Earl of ST. GERMAN brought in a bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister when contracted in the Registrar's office. It was not his intention to require clergymen to solemnise such a marriage.—The bill was read a first time.

The Mutiny Bill, the Marine Mutiny Bill, the Consolidated Fund (£26,000,000) Bill, and the Drainage Advances Act Amendment Bill, were read a third time and passed.

EDUCATION.—Earl GRANVILLE, in reply to the Earl of Shaftesbury, said that he did not intend to move the second reading of his bill on the subject of Education until he saw what effect was likely to be produced by Lord J. Russell's resolution on this subject. He did not make any statement when moving the first reading of his bill, as he proposed to reserve that statement for the second reading. His bill was very simple in its character, avoiding as much as possible the introduction of any restriction. He was clearly of opinion that to carry out a proper system of education they must rely upon local and self-government. His bill went to the extent of enabling town councils and parishes to rate themselves for the purpose of promoting education, and it left to the good sense of the districts themselves to deal with such questions as were likely to cause differences of opinion on the subject.—The Earl of HARDWICKE urged the importance of improving the system of education in the Army and Navy.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The LORD ADVOCATE gave notice, that on the 31st of March he should move for leave to bring in a bill to improve schools in Scotland, and for the extension of education in the boroughs of Scotland.

Mr. H. BERKELEY gave notice that shortly after Easter he should bring forward the question of the Ballot.

METROPOLITAN LOCAL MANAGEMENT ACT.—Viscount CHELSEA asked the Attorney-General whether he had given it as his opinion that, by the provisions of the Metropolitan Local Management Act, 18 and 19 Vic. c. 120, s

THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET.—On Saturday a new comedy, from the fertile pen of Mr. Baye Bernard, was produced at this theatre. We should add that the piece was also an original and not a translated one. It is entitled (somewhat equivocally) "The Evil Genius." The so-called "Evil Genius" who is one *Tom Ripstone* (Mr. Buckstone), an honest Derbyshire man, who preserves the honesty and simplicity of his character through all the changes of fortune, and happens to be one of the earliest friends of one *Hill Cooley, Esq.* (Mr. Chippendale), who has returned from the East Indies with wealth enough to set up for a gentleman, and who naturally desires to cut his old acquaintance, the still rustic *Tom*. But *Tom* is not to be so easily disposed of, for *Tom* is aware of the juvenile delinquencies of *Mr. Hill Cooley*—how that he had been married to a poor girl, and deserted her and their boy, to seek his fortune abroad. That boy is still living—whom *Cooley* seeks, however, to ignore, that he may marry a penniless lady of fashion and blood, without any apparent incumbrance or reference to his early connections. Hence *Tom* appears to him an "evil genius," and, as he is continually crossing his path, he seeks to get rid of him, and for this purpose procures his arrest on account of a debt which he thinks him unable to pay. *Tom*, however, does pay it; and reappears on the scene, making himself extremely disagreeable to *Cooley*, and very agreeable to a young lady and her lover, who turns out to be *Cooley's* son. To this young man *Tom* has been a "good genius," for he has performed towards him the duty that his unprincipled parent had neglected; and at last these facts are brought home to *Cooley's* knowledge, and awaken him to contrition. Here it might have been naturally expected that the author would have given us a pathetic scene, and the curtain fallen on the mutual embrace of the son and father. This usual stage conclusion is, however, postponed to the evening, when the young man is to be told all, and the action of the piece is brought abruptly to a close. The previous act had, however, terminated with what we have above called, for the sake of distinction, an "incidental situation." *Tom*, in one of his freaks (for he has many), covers himself up with a newspaper, which he pretends to be reading, and is mistaken by *Cooley* for another person; when, much to the chagrin of the latter, he lifts his head above the colossal sheet, and is thus recognised by his victim as the drop descends. Such are the peculiar effects of this curious drama. One character played by Mr. Compton deserves especial notice; it is that of an old postman with a defective memory, who, whenever he pauses to "think," uniformly "forgets," and, whenever anybody accidentally mentions the name or thing he is in want of, exclaims—"Now, I remember!" A delicate portrait this—a perfect gem of art—in every way an example of the dramatist's skill, and very classically acted by his representative. Miss Reynolds, too, had rather a dashing part, in *Lady Aurora Ringwood*, which reminded us of Mrs. Nisbett, in *Lady Goy Spanker*, and which was played somewhat in her style, though, of course, with much less force. The other characters were slight sketches, which to describe were to misrepresent, as it might imply they were something more than indications, when, in fact, they are the faintest of suggestions. Such as they are, however, they acquire strength by their combination; and the comedy, which excited continual laughter during its progress, was rewarded at its conclusion with unanimous and unequivocal applause.

THE EAST END.—Two new five-act dramas, originally produced at the Marylebone Theatre, have been, during the week, reintroduced to the public at the two houses in the populous districts of Shoreditch and Bishopsgate. At the CITY OF LONDON, Mr. Robson's play of "Love and Loathing" was performed on Monday, and found an able representative of its heroine in Miss Lacey. The drama was well received. At the STANDARD, Mrs. Edward Thomas's play of "The Merchant's Daughter of Iulon" was also acted on the same evening. This piece had the additional advantage of being supported by the original representative of its heroine, and accordingly commanded a very numerous and very demonstrative audience.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul have just completed a successful engagement in Dublin, having given their comic entertainment, "Patch-Work," over one hundred nights.

MUSIC.

THE Concert given by Madame Goldschmidt-Lind for the Nightingale Fund took place on Tuesday evening at Exeter Hall. It was a magnificent performance, with a most satisfactory result. More than two thousand persons were present; and, as the price of tickets was a guinea to every part of the house, the receipts (making allowance for some complimentary admissions) must have been at least £2000. This would leave a great balance for the fund, even were the expenses of such a concert deducted; but we have been informed, upon authority on which we are entitled to rely, that no such deduction has been made. Jenny Lind, with that nobleness of spirit which has marked her whole career, having disbursed every item of expense out of her own pocket, leaving the receipts to be handed over to the Fund without the abatement of a farthing. Considering the great scale on which this concert was got up—the orchestra ninety strong, and embracing the most eminent performers in London, the large and select band of choristers, and the completeness of every arrangement—the sum thus paid by Madame Goldschmidt must, at the very least, have been £500—an amount which she has thus contributed to the Fund over and above the exertion of her incomparable talents.

The concert was of the highest order, both in respect to selection and performance. The music was partly sacred and partly secular, and in both kinds Madame Goldschmidt took a large share. She first sang Mendelssohn's Hymn for soprano, chorus, and organ, "Hear my prayer, O God" one of the finest of that great master's sacred works, throwing into it that fervid devotional feeling in the expression of which she transcends every other singer. She took the principal soprano part in a sacred cantata composed by her husband, and performed for the first time—a work of very great merit. The words are chiefly taken from the 130th Psalm, and are of a pathetic and imploring character. The music is a series of arias, duets, and choruses, written in a pure style, and containing many passages of great expression. The opening air, "From the deep I cry unto Thee," sung by Madame Goldschmidt with intense feeling, made a deep impression; as did a fine duet for a soprano and tenor which she sang with Mr. Swift. Of the choral portion of the work, the greatest effect was produced by a short but lovely chorus for female voices, descriptive of "the lilies of the field, who toil not, neither do they spin." We trust to have another opportunity of hearing a work which was so admirably performed, and which does so much honour to the genius of the composer.

In the latter part of the concert Mdme. Goldschmidt's performances were of a light description, calculated to show the extent of her vocal powers and the unrivalled brilliancy of her execution. She sang Rossini's bravura air, "Squalida veste," from the "Turco in Italia"; Meyerbeer's trio for the voice and two flutes, which she has repeated so often—often, we think, it deserves; and the finale of Weber's "Euryanthe."

Mr. Goldschmidt played two pieces, both well known to the musical world—Beethoven's Choral Fantasia, and Weber's Concert-stück—and maintained his reputation as an accomplished pianist of the best school. The other pieces performed during the evening were Mozart's Symphony in G minor, an air from Mozart's "Davide Penitente" (sung by Mr. Swift), Benedict's Overture to "The Tempest," Mendelssohn's part-song, "When the west with evening glows" (admirably sung by the chorus), and the March and Chorus from Beethoven's "Ruins of Athens," which terminated the concert. The fair giver was received with all the enthusiasm due to her noble character, her incomparable talents, and the magnificent aid given by her to an object which the English public have so much at heart.

On Monday last Mr. Ella concluded the Lectures on Music delivered by him in the course of the last twelve months at the London Institution, Finsbury-circus. These lectures, from the novelty of their design, and the ability with which it has been executed, have been eminently successful. They were especially addressed to amateurs, who, as singers and instrumental performers, have acquired some practical knowledge of music; and his object has been to increase the enjoyment derived from the art by some comprehension of his principles. With this view he has explained, in a popular way, the elements of harmony and composition, illustrating his remarks by performing and analysing passages from the works of the greatest ancient and modern masters. His twelve lectures, delivered since March, 1855, were divided into two series, embracing the following subjects:—First series: 1, Devotional harmony; 2, Secular; 3, Pastoral; 4, Vague, supernatural, and suggestive; 5, Imitative, graphic, and descriptive; 6, Dramatic. Second series: 1, Melody; 2, Harmony; 3, Counterpoint; 4, 5, and 6, Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, their instrumental music analysed. The musical illustrations were given by eminent performers. The instrumental by Mr. Kiallmark on the piano, and the vocal by Miss Ransford, Miss Lascelles, Miss Chambers, Mr. T. Williams, and Mr. Smythson. During the whole course

the spacious lecture-room was crowded by an attentive and interested audience.

THOUGH no doubt is entertained as to the opening of the Italian Opera this season, yet nothing positive has yet transpired as to its locality. Mr. Gye and Mr. Lumley have had more than one meeting on the subject, and it is believed that a negotiation is now pending for transferring the late Covent Garden establishment to Her Majesty's Theatre.

HERR ERNST, the great violinist, is just arrived in London for the season. Madame Clara Novello, who has been spending the winter at Nice, is about to return to England.

At the fourth Concert of the Beaumont Institution, to which we made allusion in our last publication, the programme included the celebrated ballads of the "Last Rose of Summer" and the "Bay of Biscay," sung by the great tenor who stands unrivalled among English singers, and who is constantly proving that the Italians are not invariably the best vocalists in the world. To execute to perfection the two songs which we have quoted requires the most varied powers. In the mournful Irish melody Mr. Sims Keever had an opportunity of displaying the exquisite falsetto voice with which he is gifted; while in the stirring naval song his fine chest voice had full scope, and roused the audience to the highest pitch of enthusiasm. Mr. Frank Mori's pupil, Miss Louisa Vining, contributed three songs, "Vigilia dal Ciel," the Prayer and Barcarolle from the "Etoile du Nord," "I love my little native isle," and "Lo! here the gentle lark." The appearance of the young singer on the platform was the signal for general applause. It would seem as if the Beaumont Institution were conscious of having been the scene of her débüt, and were determined to show it. The "Vigilia dal Ciel" of Miss Vining was extremely beautiful, and loses none of its merits when compared with Bosio's performance at the Italian Opera last season. "I love my little native isle" was also admirably sung. But the triumph of the evening was the performance of Bishop's magnificence—a triumph which neither the singer nor the audience will be likely to forget. To say that the song was applauded is not sufficient to convey an idea of what actually took place. The encore was not merely requested, or hinted in the usual way, but loudly and emphatically insisted on. A singer who on her second appearance can make conquests like these may, without vanity, look high. Miss Lucy Escott was in excellent voice, as was also Mrs. Sims Reeves, who sang the "Qui la voce," from the "Puritani," with great power and expression. The buffo scene from the "Cenerentola" was executed with much spirit by Mr. Farquharson, whose flexible baritone voice is admirably suited for such parts. The concert was conducted by Mr. W. G. Cusins.

HENRY RUSSELL has been singing his popular songs with great success at Bath during the week. On Monday next, the 17th, he commences at the Surrey Theatre with his entertainment of the "Far West."

HANDEL'S "Messiah" was performed on Thursday week, in the Speech Room of Harrow School, for the benefit of the resident Professor of Music, Mr. Tillyard. The performance was under the patronage of Dr. Vaughan, the principal; the Rev. J. W. Cunningham, the Rector of Harrow; and other clergymen and gentlemen. The following eminent artistes were engaged:—Miss Stabbach, Miss Dolby, Mr. Montemith, and Mr. Tillyard; trumpet, Mr. Harper; accompanists, Messrs. Frank Mori and Jolly. Conductor, Mr. Surman. The performance throughout gave entire satisfaction, especially the solos of Miss Stabbach, Miss Dolby, and Mr. Tillyard, which were sung with that chasteness and highly-cultivated execution which has been so often noticed and admired. An oratorio performance in Harrow is a rare treat indeed, and was relished as such by a crowded audience of the Harrow boys and others who had the privilege of entrance.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE alteration which was determined on by the Doncaster Spring Committee (whose stakes are filling well), to hold their meeting early in April, instead of the middle of March, has caused next week to be a blank one to the sportsman, and gives them a greater zest for the first great meeting of the year at Northampton. Steeplechasing will also experience a complete lull; and there is nothing even in that line, except one at Louth on Friday. The racing at Warwick was very spirited, and Wells rode his fourth two-year old winner this season. His horse Apathy, by Annandale, owed his victory entirely to his superior condition; and Coronet's brother, Lambourne, who ran second, and was far less "fit," will hereafter prove a second feather in the cap of Loupgarou. Little Davie cut down his horses as he always does here, from end to end; and the Grand Steeplechase was only won, after an exciting race, by a neck, though the childishly low weights on the horses, as at Liverpool, tends more than ever to degrade the sport. Neville is for sale, and Polestare fetched 720 gs. at Tattersall's last Monday, and fell to the owner of Amorous Boy. Barbelle, who seemed at one time as if she was determined to rest on the glories of her sons Van Tromp and Flying Dutchman, and for some four seasons had no foal, has followed up her Orlando colt and her Pompey filly of 1854-55 with a chestnut colt to West Australian. Rataplan's sale was a very slow affair, as he was "put in" at 1200 gs., and had only two bidders, who went on by fifty-guinea bids, until 2000 gs., or 1100 gs. less than Stockwell was reached, and the rare old chestnut passed out of the "Thelusson Trust" into Mr. Foljambe's hands. He looked hardly, but, as Mr. Foljambe has such a capital chance of getting a private measure with Fandango, we should almost fancy that he will have a trial, before it is finally decided to send him to the stud this year. The season is pretty far advanced, and nearly all the good mares are in the subscription lists elsewhere. The price, considering his immense bone and blood, is at least 500 gs. too little, and he should make an invaluable cross with the speedy light mares of the present day. His gameness and love of a distance was undeniable, but he rather lacked speed. Inheritor, a very unlucky brood mare, is gone to Teddington; and the smart Nelly Hill, who could jump off quicker from the post than any animal we ever saw, is at the paddocks of Barnton, the sire of Fandango.

There have been some very great runs of late, but the dry weather is beginning to be sadly against the scent, and the foxes are lying out in all directions among the crumbling dusty fallows and the dry hedge bottoms, to such an extent that the best covers are frequently drawn blank, and the "Tally-ho" is heard in places where a schoolboy would hardly look for a rabbit or a weasel with his terrier. We saw a strange instance of the troubles which a vertical sun entails upon huntsmen as we strolled to see a woodland meet in the early part of this week. The hounds drew a narrow wood blank, and they were hardly out of it when a fox who had crouched among the thin sag as they passed broke, with only two hounds close at him. They ran him across a couple of fields exactly like a couple of greyhounds; the fox throwing them at the turns, and finally reaching another cover, with the pair only three or four yards from his brush.

Instead of going through it, he simply threaded the inside of the hedge, and sat down, while all the pack ran over him, and got in to another fox. The dodge would, in fact, have not been found out if a man had not positively wined him from the other side of the hedge, when all the dogs had failed to do so, though they had run within a few yards of him. The remainder of the day's sport was equally unsatisfactory. Foxes sat on their haunches on the ridings quietly taking breath and listening for their pursuers; and when the hounds were lifted to the exact spot five minutes after only one hound spoke to it, and he only once. Among huntsmen changes we may note that Edwards has left Lord Henry Bentinck, and his place has been taken by Simpson, who was with Lord Southampton last season. His Lordship has also engaged the celebrated Jack Morgan as his first whip, and he acts as huntsman on Tuesdays and Fridays, while Simpson takes the other four days. The Burton country was, we believe, the one in which Jack first graduated under the late Sir Richard Sutton; but he has hardly scope for his magnificent riding powers among its stiff plough lands as he had over the pastures of Leicestershire (where he was quite as popular as Jack Stevens) in poor Sir Richard's day.

We may here mention that the rumours as to Mr. Richard Sutton taking a new country are premature. It is confidently whispered that his hounds will be very shortly brought to the hammer, and that he will cease to be a master altogether.

The coursing meetings are all but finished; and, in fact, the Newcastle Northumberland, and Durham Union, on Monday and Tuesday; the Mountainside, on Tuesday and Wednesday; and the Nithsdale and Galloway, towards the close of the week—one in each of the sister countries—are the only ones on the card for next week.

Among the odd sporting incidents of the month we may especially mention that Judge, with 3 to 1 on him, was actually caught and passed by Protest as they raced to their hare from the slips in the run-up for the Waterloo Cup. He has always been considered the fastest dog in the kingdom; but there are some who think that Jacobite is faster. A large pike, it seems, was taken at a swan which put its head under water; and when the two were found the pike had swallowed the head and neck of the swan, and then they floated, bound together by a link which proved a deadly one to both assailant and assailed.

WARWICK SPRING MEETING.—MONDAY.

Handicap Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Sir Rowland Trenchard, 1. Bolton, 2. Sweepstakes of 5 sovs.—The Roman, 1. Speculator, 2. Trial Stakes.—Fisherwoman, 1. Stork, 2. Willoughby Handicap—Rodo-meli, 1. Fulbeck, 2. Farmers' Plate.—The Comet, 1. Jenny Jones, 2.

TUESDAY.

Handicap Plate.—Sir Rowland Trenchard, 1. Rudstone, 2. Two-year-old Stakes.—Aphra, 1. Lambourn, 2. Great Warwickshire Handicap.—Little Davie, 1. Fulbeck, 2. Sweepstakes—Coal Black Rose, 1. Magus, 2. Debdale Stakes.—Royalty, 1. Beggar Boy, 2. Handicap Hurdle Race.—Sandboy, 1. Beechnut, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Hunters' Stakes.—Twin Shon Catt, 1. Squire of Malton, 2. Selling Stakes.—The Assayer, 1. Speculator, 2. Scurry Handicap.—Little Tom, 1. Twin Shon Catt, 2. Grand Annual Steeplechase.—Little Charley, 1. Odham, 2. Hunt Cup Steeplechase.—British Sailor, 1. Omer Pacha, 2. Handicap Steeplechase.—Goodlad, 1. Lady-bird, 2.

Handicap Hurdle Race.—Sandboy, 1. Beechnut, 2.

SALISBURY RACES.—THURSDAY.

City Bowl.—Roman, 1. Jane Shore, 2. Third Biennial Stakes.—Arsenal, 1. Tricolor, 2. Trial Stakes.—Lymington walked over. Wiltshire Stakes.—Mayboy, 1. Elfida, 2.

THURSDAY.

TATTERSALL'S.—MONDAY.

GREAT WARWICKSHIRE HANDICAP.—4 to 1 agst Veteran (1). TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—7 to 1 agst Fly-by-Night (3 to 1); 3 to 1 agst Yellow Jack (100 to 30 to 1); 10 to 1 agst Polmear (12 to 1 to 25). CHESTER CUP.—30 to 1 agst Warden (1); 1000 to 30 also laid; 1000 to 30 agst Fumlestone (1); 35 to 1 also laid; 1000 to 20 agst Stork (1).

DEERBY.—7 to 1 agst Wentworth (4 to 450); 7 to 1 agst Ellington (off); 15 to 3 agst Fly-by-Night (1 to 250); 8 to 1 also laid; 1000 even between Wentworth and Fly-by-Night (1).

THURSDAY.

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—30 to 1 agst Prince (1).

CHESTER CUP.—14 to 1 agst Yellow Jack (1).

DEERBY.—25 to 1 agst Bird-in-Hand (1).

THURSDAY.

THE DESTRUCTION OF COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE. On Sunday some thousands of persons flocked to Bow-street for the purpose of viewing the still smoking ruins. At an early hour in the morning tee barriers in most of the streets were opened, to allow persons to pass along; but in a very brief period the crowd became so dense as to prevent the firemen from passing to and fro to their work. It was therefore again found necessary to stop the public traffic. A number of persons managed to pass down Prince's-place, the entrance to where her Majesty's state-box stood, and got within the walls. Superintendent Durkin, seeing the plaster and brickwork falling, was apprehensive that, unless the ruins were cleared of the populace, a great many persons would be killed. He therefore made known his opinion to the firemen, and the place was forthwith cleared. After that time the only persons allowed to enter were the firemen, who were exposed to great danger by the continuous falling of the brickwork and iron doors leading from the private boxes, and other things left by the fire standing loose in the niches of the upper boxes. So intense was the heat of the conflagration that many of the numerous iron pillars on which the different tiers of boxes stood, are now found to be completely fused, and the metal can be picked up in huge masses weighing upwards of half a hundredweight. The wall under which the Queen stood when she visited the ruins has fallen to the ground, showing that her Majesty must have run a great risk whilst she remained there. In fact, Mr. Colf, the principal foreman of the fire brigade, stated that if he had been present when her Majesty arrived he should have persuaded her not to venture within the walls, more especially at the place where she entered, which was the most dangerous part of any in the ruins. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, upon his inspection of the ruins, having expressed a wish to obtain some of the contents of the theatre, to preserve as a memento of the destruction, Perryer, the engineer of the fire brigade, entered the walls of the theatre, and picked up some pieces of crystal that had fallen from the great chandelier in a fused state, and became mixed with iron. His Royal Highness very politely thanked the engineer, and appeared greatly to value the relic.

The splendid staircase leading to the dress circle finally disappeared on Sunday, not a step being now visible: and at the extreme end of the pit the staircases leading to the private boxes were rapidly giving way, and crumbling like so much dust, owing to their calcined condition.

On Monday several hundred gentlemen visited the ruins; amongst the earliest to attend were Lord Ernest Bruce, Colonel Knox, and several other members of Parliament. In Bow street it was difficult for persons to pass along on account of the immense crowd assembled there; and Hart-street, which leads to the Queen's entrance in Prince's-place, was equally crowded by persons, who appear to have not the least regard for their lives. Fortunately no accident took place. Several hundred persons also risked their lives by venturing within the theatre, including a great many of the Foot Guards, and they being in full regiments gave the ruins quite a picturesque effect. Every one present could be seen raking amongst the ruins to procure something as a reliquary. The work of demolition on the northern wall goes on with full vigour, and it is thought that in a few days the whole will be cast down, and then the safety of the opposite houses will be secured.

On Tuesday Mr. Bedford, coroner for the city of Westminster, assembled a jury at the Piazza Hotel, Covent-garden, for the purpose of inquiring into the cause of the fire.

The Coroner said that the present was a somewhat unusual inquiry, differing from the ordinary inquests attendant on the deaths of individuals. In the present case he had been applied to by the churchwardens of the parish in which the late Royal Italian Opera-house was situated to institute an inquiry into the origin of the disastrous fire which had destroyed that magnificent building, and he had felt it his duty immediately to acquiesce in the application. The parish authorities had assured him he might rely upon their best assistance in carrying out the inquiry, and he was bound to say that Mr. Moseley Taylor had taken great pains in getting the evidence relating to the calamity together. It was an inquiry in which the public were very deeply interested, for many reasons. In the first place, the destruction of the theatre had occasioned very general sympathy, from the highest to the lowest; and, secondly, the walls of the building were now in such a state that the neighbourhood was jeopardized. If the evidence which should be laid before the jury that day did not establish them as to the origin of the fire, he trusted they would spare no pains in



BURNING OF COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



RUINS OF COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.—(SEE PAGE 275.)

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by Prince Alfred and the Princess Helena, visited the Botanic Gardens in the Regent's park on Saturday. During the day her Majesty received the Princess Gaurouna of Coorg. In the evening the Queen gave a dinner party.

On Monday her Majesty and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princess Royal, dined with the Duchess of Cambridge, at her residence in St. James's Palace.

On Tuesday his Serene Highness Prince Victor of Hohenlohe arrived at Buckingham Palace on a visit to her Majesty. In the evening the Queen and the Prince, accompanied by the Princess Helena and Prince Victor, honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

Lord Camoys and Mr. F. Cavendish have relieved Lord Waterpark and Major-General Berkeley Drummond in their duties as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to the Queen.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held a Levee on Wednesday afternoon, in St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert arrived from Buckingham Palace soon after two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards.

The Duke of Cambridge, Prince Victor of Hohenlohe, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, attended the Levee, and were received by the Vice-Chamberlain.

The Queen and the Prince Consort entered the Throne-room at half-past two o'clock, attended by the Lords and Gentlemen of the Royal Household. Her Majesty wore a train of white and gold moiré antique silk, trimmed with gold blonde and red velvet bows. The petticoat was white satin, and was also trimmed with gold blonde and red velvet bows. The head-dress consisted of a coronet of opal and diamonds.

The Foreign Ministers were first introduced, when several presentations took place.

The Court was very numerously attended by the nobility and gentry. The presentations exceeded 400 in number. Among the more noticeable we may instance—

Lord Winsley, on his elevation to the Peerage, by the Lord Chancellor.

Lord Aveland, on being created a Peer, by Viscount Palmerston.

Lord Raglan, by the Duke of Beaufort.

Lieutenant-General Cannon (Behram Pacha), on his return from Turkey, by Lord Panmure.

Mr. Farwile, by Lord Farnham.

Mr. John Thwaites, Chairman of Metropolitan Board of Works, by Sir G. Grey.

Dr. William Rae, R.N., on receiving the honour of C.B., by Sir C. Wood.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

The confirmation of her Royal Highness the Princess Royal will take place in her Majesty's private chapel in Windsor Castle, on Thursday next.

His Majesty the King of the Belgians, who is godfather to her Royal Highness, the members of the Royal family, and a select circle, have been invited to be present at the ceremony, which will be performed by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.

It is understood that Prince Frederick William of Prussia is shortly expected to return to this country on a visit. It will be remembered that his Royal Highness passed some days with the Court at Balmoral last autumn; and rumour assigns the Prince as the future husband of the Princess Royal.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. A. Paris to Ludgvan, Cornwall; Rev. H. M. Stowers to Walton, near Huntingdon; Rev. J. S. Hall to Dalby, Yorkshire; Rev. J. F. H. Mills to Hockerton, near Southwell; Rev. J. M. Nisbet to Deal, Kent; Rev. H. J. Ordern to King's-down, Kent; Rev. G. Farde to Banham, near Atleborough; Rev. R. J. H. Thomas to Llanwaled, near Lembroke. *Vicarages*: The Rev. T. H. Greene to Lecminster, near Arundel; Rev. T. Hopkins to Newbry, Cornwall; Rev. W. C. S. Addison to Hartpury, near Newent, Gloucestershire; Rev. G. Chute to Drayton-in-Hales, near Market Drayton; Rev. J. W. Heslop to Weaverthorpe, near Malton, Yorkshire; Rev. W. Leeper to All Saints, Lyne Regis; Rev. T. H. Kersley to Middleton, near Lynn; Rev. A. M. Parkinson to Helpethorpe, Yorkshire. *Incumbencies*: Rev. E. T. Scott to Stoke Ferry, Norfolk; Rev. G. E. Symonds to Tilby, near Thaxted; Rev. C. P. Phinn to Coxley, Somerset; Rev. E. Jones to Nerquis, near Mold, Flintshire.

THE REV. G. A. Oldham, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, late Curate of Dorking, Surrey, has left the Church of England, and joined the communion of the Church of Rome. Mr. Oldham was formerly Curate of Godshill, Isle of Wight.

ST. MATTHEW'S, BRIXTON.—A salver and a set of robes have been presented by the ladies, and a purse of gold by the gentlemen, of St. Matthew's, Brixton, to the Rev. George Eastman, as a testimony of their respect and esteem on his leaving the curacy.

THE CHEAP NEWSPAPERS.—Whatever may be the ultimate benefits of the cheap-newspaper movement elsewhere, it does not appear to work well in Liverpool, for within a week two of the oldest papers there have ceased to exist, viz. the *Liverpool Times* and the *Liverpool Standard*—the former a Whig and the latter a Conservative and Low Church journal.

The religious ceremony for the anniversary of the death of the Emperor Nicholas was celebrated at St. Petersburg on the 1st inst., instead of the 2nd, which was the day on which he died. Salvoes of artillery and the bells of all the churches announced the event to the inhabitants of the city.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

THE FAVOURABLE PROSPECTS of peace continue to exercise considerable influence upon the value of national Stocks. Although the amount of money business doing in Consols this week has not been to say extensive, prices have advanced nearly one per cent., and there has been an unusually heavy "contango," viz.—from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.—a strong proof that jobbers generally are operating upon peace prospects. We have had a settlement in the Consol-market; and there has been a heavy payment—over £2,000,000—on account of the new Loan of £5,000,000, and the funding Exchequer Bills. Nearly two-thirds of the amount were paid into the hands of the contractors prior to Thursday; so that there was no immediate pressure for money on that day.

The Discount-market has been by no means well supplied with money; but some relief has been afforded it by the East India Company having lent some considerable sums, at the current rates of interest. Discount quotations have not varied since our last, short-dated bills being quoted in Lombard-street at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

It is understood that some remittances have been received from Paris to invest in our funds; and it must be satisfactory to learn that the demand for gold on account of the Bank of France is by no means active. For shipment to India, however, most of the silver in the market has been disposed of—bars, at 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ dollars, £60 $\frac{1}{2}$ per ounce. There have been very few imports of the precious metals, the principal arrivals being £22,000 from Belgium, and £2000 from the Brazils; but we understand that the next two steamers from New York will bring over £200,000.

NATIONAL SECURITIES were steady on Monday, as follows:—Three per Cent Consols for Money, 91 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, for Account, 91 $\frac{1}{2}$; New Three per Cents, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Long Annuities, 1860, 83; Consols, 91 $\frac{1}{2}$ pm.; Exchequer Scrip, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ prem.; Exchequer Bills, 1s. prem. to 1s. dis.; Ditto, Advertised, 2s. dis.; Exchequer Bonds, 98 $\frac{1}{2}$. On the following day numerous small parcels of stock were purchased on account of the public, and the market generally was firm:—The Three per Cent Consols were 91 $\frac{1}{2}$ up to 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, for the Account, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 77; Five per Cent Annuities, 115; India Bonds, 2s. to 6s. dis.; Consols Scrip, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ prem.; Exchequer Scrip, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ prem.; Exchequer Bills, 1s. dis. to par; Exchequer Bonds, 98 $\frac{1}{2}$. On Wednesday prices had an upward tendency, with a firm feeling in the transactions:—The Three per Cent Reduced were done by special transfer at 91 $\frac{1}{2}$; The Three per Cent Consols, for Money, marked 91 $\frac{1}{2}$ up to 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, for Time, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ pm.; New Three per Cents, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; India Bonds, 7s. 3s. dis.; Consols Scrip, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ prem.; Exchequer Scrip, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ prem.; Exchequer Bills, 1s. dis. to 1s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1868, 98 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, 1868, 98 $\frac{1}{2}$. On Thursday prices were again on the advance, with a firm market. The Three per Cent Consols were 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ pm. for Money, and 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ for Time. The New Scrip was 2 $\frac{1}{2}$; and Exchequer Scrip, 2 prem.; India Bonds, 8s. dis. A transfer took place in New Three per Cents at 93. The half-yearly meeting of the Bank Proprietary took place, when a dividend of five per cent for the last half-year was agreed to. The net profit for the half year was £705,325 8s. 7d.

The transactions in the Foreign House have been tolerably extensive, and prices generally have tended upwards:—Brazilian Five per Cent have marked 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ecuador New Consolidated, 14; Ditto, Provisional Land Warrant, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$; Granada One-and-a-Half per Cents New Active, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Deferred, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 92; Ditto, Small, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 60 ex div.; Sardinian Five per Cents, 91; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 64; Dutch Four per Cents, 95 $\frac{1}{2}$; Spanish Three per Cents, 43; Ditto, New Deferred, 28 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Passive, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; Turkish Six per Cents, 96 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Four per Cents (guaranteed), 100; Venezuelan Four-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 28 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, One-and-a-Half per Cents, Deferred, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 95; Cuba Seven per Cents, 101; Mexican Three per Cents, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been in great request, as follows:—Australasia, 27; Bank of Egypt, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; Bank of London, 63; City, 63; Colonial, 20; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 16 ex div.; London Chartered of Australia, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, New, 2; London and County, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$; London Joint-Stock, 29; New South Wales, 37 $\frac{1}{2}$; Oriental, 42; Union of Australia, 71 $\frac{1}{2}$.

There has been a moderate inquiry of Miscellaneous Securities, and prices

continue to be well supported:—Australian Royal Mail have been 4 $\frac{1}{2}$; Berlin Waterworks, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; Canada Company's Bonds, 147; Ditto, Government Six per Cents, 108 $\frac{1}{2}$; Crystal Palace, 24; Ditto, Preference, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$; Electric Telegraph, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$; General Steam Navigation, 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex div.; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex div.; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 65; Scottish Australian Investment, 13; Victoria Docks, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$; Grand Junction Canal, 38; Oxford, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$; Stiford and Worcester, 420; Stourbridge, 290; Hungerford-bridge, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; Waterloo, New, £7, 26; Vauxhall, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Mining Shares have been rather flat, yet prices have ruled tolerably firm:—St. John del Rey have realised 26; Copiapo, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$; Linares, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; Tin Croft, 4; and United Mexican, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Most Railway Shares have been in steady request; and high rates of "continuation" have been pretty general, the "contango" upon Great Northern having been 1-16; upon Dovers, 1-16 to 3-32; and upon Berwick, 1-16 to 4-16. The following are the official closing money prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Bristol and Exeter, 88; Caledonian, 60 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern Counties, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Northern, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto B Stock, 120 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Western, 62; London and North-Western, 99 $\frac{1}{2}$; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$; Midland, 69 $\frac{1}{2}$; North British, 30 $\frac{1}{2}$; North-Eastern—Berwick Line LEASED AT FIXED RENTAL.—Midland—Bradford, 91 $\frac{1}{2}$.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Five per Cent, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Five per Cent, redeemable at Five per Cent prem., 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; North-Eastern—York, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$; Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$; Dutch-Rhenish, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; East Indian, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Luxembourg, Obligations, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$; Madras, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$; Sambre and Meuse, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, March 10.—A very moderate supply of English wheat in poor condition was on offer in to-day's market. For all kinds the demand ruled steadily, at an improvement in the quotations of from 1s. to 2s. per quarter. Foreign wheat, the show of which is by no means extensive, was in better request, and rather dearer. There was a better sale in the market, and a few parcels advanced 1s. per quarter. Malt, however, moved off slowly at the late decline in value. We had a dull inquiry for oats, the prices of which gave way 6d. per quarter. Both beans and peas were rather active, at extreme rates; and there was a better feeling in the flour trade at very full prices.

March 12.—The supplies of most kinds of produce here to-day were small, and the trade generally ruled firm, at fully Monday's currency.

English.—Wheat, Easett and Kent, rod, 58s. to 72s.; ditto, white, 62s. to 75s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 60s. to 70s.; rye, 4s. to 7s.; grinding barley, 29s. to 31s.; distilling ditto, 33s. to 35s.; malting ditto, 36s. to 40s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 68s. to 74s.; brown ditto, 60s. to 63s.; Kingston and Ware, 7s. to 7s.; Chevalier, 7s. to 76s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 22s. to 23s.; potato ditto, 23s. to 28s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 19s. to 22s.; ditto, white, 19s. to 23s.; tick beans, 32s. to 35s.; grey peas, 31s. to 35s.; maple, 37s. to 38s.; white, 40s. to 42s.; boilers, 40s. to 44s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 61s. to 63s.; Suffolk, 47s. to 52s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 47s. to 49s. per 280 lbs. American flour, 31s. to 35s. per barrel.

Seeds.—There is an improved feeling in the demand for most seeds as well as cakes. Prices generally are supported.

Linseed, English, crushing, 6s. to 68s.; Mediterranean, 9s. to 6s.; hempseed, 5s. to 60s. per quarter. Coriander, 26s. to 30s. per cwt. Brown mustard seed, 1s. to 2s.; white, 10s. to 13s.; tares, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed, 8s. to 9s. per quarter. Linseed, calked, 13s. to 14s.; 13 to 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. ditto, foreign, £12 5s. to £13 10s.; rape cakes, 26s. to 28s. to £1 2s. per cwt. Canary, 50s. to 62s. per quarter; and clover seed, 7s. to 8s.; ditto, white, 8s. to 10s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 8d. to 9d. of household ditto, 7d. to 8d. per lb. of bread.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.—Wheat, 69s. 11d.; barley, 32s. 11d.; oats, 21s. 1d.; rye, 4s. 4d.; beans, 40s. 1d.; peas, 40s. 3d.

THE SIX WEEKS' AVERAGES.—Wheat, 71s. 7d.; barley, 36s. 8d.; oats, 21s. 2d.; rye, 4s. 4d.; beans, 42s. 4d.; peas, 41s.

ENGLISH GRAIN SOLD LAST WEEK.—Wheat, 102,89s.; barley, 81,74s.; oats, 21,90s.; rye, 13s.; beans, 6242s.; pease, 1293 quarters.

Tea.—We continue to have a very dull sale for all kinds of tea, and prices are barely supported. Common sound congo, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

Sugar.—The supply of raw sugar continue in excess of last year, and the demand for them has fallen off. Prices may be quoted 6d. per cwt. lower than last week. The inquiry for refined goods is very inactive, at 4s. to 5s. per cwt.

Coffee.—This article is still dull in sale, and good ordinary native Ceylon is freely offered, at 50s. to 51s. per cwt.

Rice.—There is a better feeling in the demand for most kinds, at an improvement in value of 3d. per cwt.

PROVISIONS.—We have less activity in the butter market, and prices have ruled in favour of butter. The supplies of that article are very moderate. Bacon moves off freely, at a further improvement in value of 2s. per cwt. Other kinds of provisions rule about stationary.

Tallow.—There has been only a limited demand for this article, at drooping prices. P.Y.C., on the spot, 57s. to 57s. 6d.; and for the last three months, 51s. per cwt.

Oils.—Linseed oil has changed hands at 34s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt. Most other oils are firm. Tarragonine is dull. Rongh, 9s. to 9s. 6d.; spirits, 32s. to 34s. per cwt.

Spirits.—Rum is dull, at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. per proof leeward, and 1s. 10d. to 2s. per gallon for East India. Brandy moves off slowly, on former terms. In other spirits very little is doing.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 4s. 0s. to £1 15s.; clover ditto, £1 20s. to £1 20s. per load.

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AMUSEMENTS, &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE. — On EASTER MONDAY, A WONDERFUL WOMAN. After which will be revived (first time this season), FAUST AND MARGUERITE. And (first time) a new Farce, called A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. Tuesday (last time but three) HENRY THE EIGHTH. After which (first time) a Comedietta, in One Act, called THE VICTOR VANQUISHED. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. Wednesday, LOUIS XIV. THE VICTOR VANQUISHED. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. Thursday, A WONDERFUL WOMAN. FAUST AND MARGUERITE. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. Friday, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. THE VICTOR VANQUISHED. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. Saturday, THE CORSICAN BROTHERS. THE VICTOR VANQUISHED. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR.

A DAMS'S ORREY—PASSION WEEK. — A PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Mr. C. H. ADAMS will give his OKNEY and TRANSPARENT MOVING SCENERY (23rd year in London) EVERY EVENING Next Week, being Passion Week (Good Friday excepted), at Eight o'clock, terminating at Ten. Stalls, 3s.; Dress Circle, 2s. 6d.; Upper Boxes, 2s.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d. Schools and Children, half-price to Pit and Boxes.

ASTLEY'S GREAT NATIONAL STEEPELCHASE of 1856, for the EASTER HOLIDAYS.—Mr. WM. COOKE begs to inform the Nobility, Gentry, and Public, that he has provided a sumptuous Equestrian and Dramatic Entertainment for the Easter Vacation far exceeding any previous effort. On MONDAY, MARCH 21st, and during the week, the entertainments will commence with the Grand Oriental Spectacle, replete with every appliance and effect possible, entitled THE ARAB OF THE DESERT AND HIS FAITHFUL STEED; a brilliant combination of Equestrian Talents in the Scenes 'n the Circle; concluding with Astley's Great National Steeplechase of 1856.

A DELPHI THEATRE.—EASTER MONDAY. — SPLENDID HOLIDAY AMUSEMENT.—Easter Monday, DOMESTIC ECONOMY—Mr. Wright, URGENT PRIVATE AFFAIRS—Meers, Wright and Paul Bedford, With JACK and the BEAN STALK; or, Harlequin and Mother Goose at Home Again. Jack and Harlequin—Marie Celeste. Mother Goose and Columbine—Miss Wyndham.

PICCO, the BLIND SARDINIAN MINSTREL and MUSICAL PHENOMENON, who created so extraordinary a sensation at the Hanover-square room, will give FIVE CONCERTS at the DELPHI THEATRE, in PASSION WEEK, commencing on MONDAY, MARCH 17th, when he will perform some choice pieces on the Pastoral Tibia. Vocalists: Miss Willpitt, Middle, La Cetin, Miss May, Miss Hughes, Miss Lascella, Miss Heyward, Middle, Corolla, Sig. Alberico, Mr. J. Champion, Mr. Sherwin, Signor Veroni, Sig. Kini, Mr. E. Murray, and Sig. Bianchi. The Band will be full and complete under Mr. Thirlwall and Mr. H. Hill, Conductors. Mr. A. Melville, Full particulars in the handbills of each day. Private Boxes, Two Guineas; Stalls, 7s.; Boxes, 5s.; Pit and Gallery, 3s.; Tickets to be had at Mr. Mitchell's, Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; Mr. Augard's, 51, Oxford-street; Meers, Keith, Prowse, and Co's., 48, Cheapside; Picco's, 29, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square; all the principal Muscivellers; and at the Box-office of the Theatre.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor Mr. COSTA.—On Wednesday, March 19, the usual Passion Week performance of HANDEL'S MESSIAH. Vocalists—Madame Ruderstorff, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Wells, with orchestra of nearly 700 performers. Tickets, 5s.; reserved, 3s.; stalls, 1s. 6d. each; at the Society's Office, 6, in Exeter-hall.

THE SISTERS SOPHIA and ANNIE, on MONDAY, March 17th, and Every Evening during the Week, at the MUSIC HALL, Shoreham.

MISS P. HORTON'S (Mrs. T. GERMAN REED) New and Popular ENTERTAINMENT, consisting of Musical and Characteristic Illustrations, introducing a variety of amusing and interesting scenes from Real Life, with English, French, and Italian Songs, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), for a Limited period, at the ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, commencing at Eight o'clock and terminating at a Quarter past Ten. Prices of Admission, 2s. and 1s.; Stalls, 3s.; every Saturday, at Three o'clock, when the free list will be suspended. No performance on Saturday evenings.

M. R. GEORGE CASE'S CONCERT MUSIQUE at EXETER HALL, on MONDAY Next, MARCH 17. The following artists are engaged:—Madame Gasser, Madame Caradori, Madame Lucy Everett, Miss Potts, Miss Weston, Miss Beccaria, Mrs. M. Heron Drayton, Misses Howard, Park, 14, Mrs. Featherstone, Mrs. M. Heron Drayton, Miss Stoddard, Miss Emma Hartman, Miss Jessie Ward, Miss Mary Keeler, Miss Lizzie Sturmer, Miss Miller, Miss Louisa Vining, Miss Mrs. La Cetin, Mrs. B. Schlemm, the Misses Wells, and Madame Amatissi; Mr. Augustus Graham, Mr. Henry Genge, Mr. Henry Haigh, Mr. Wales, Mr. Henry Drayton, Mr. Hamilton Graham, Mr. Farquharson, and Mr. Gassier. Instrumentalists: Miss M. Collins, Miss L. Taylor, and Miss Gassier, Miss E. E. S. Clark, Miss Mrs. Weston, Mr. Frederick Chatterton, Mr. Henry Cooper, Herr Gruber, Mr. Vittori Carbone, and Misses G. and J. Case. Tickets, 1s., 2s., and 2s. 6d.; reserved seats, 3s. 6d.; stalls, 1s.; To be had of Mr. Case, 70, Harley-street; 23, Holles-street; 34, Bishopsgate-street Within; and at the Muscivellers, 1s. 6d. each.

HENRY RUSSELL at the SURREY THEATRE—PASSION WEEK—Monday, March 17th; Tuesday, 18th; Wednesday, 19th; Thursday, 20th; and Saturday, 22d, in his entertainments entitled THE FAR WEST, or, Life in America. Mr. Russel will accompany himself on Collard and Collard's magnificient 16-chord Pianoforte expressly manufactured for him. Doors open at half-past Seven, to commence at Eight. Prices as usual.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, HOLLAND, UP THE RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN, Every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock. Stalls (which can be taken from a plan at the Box-office every day, between Eleven and Four, without any extra charge), 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three o'clock.—EGYPTIAN HALL.

LAST FEW NIGHTS OF THE LONDON SEASON.—A NEW PIECE nearly ready.—LOVE, the first Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, EVERY EVENING at EIGHT o'clock, except Saturday; Saturday, at Three.—Regent Gallery, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street.—Tickets at Mitchell's, and at the Box-offices.

MR. W. S. WOODIN AS RACHEL IN "LES HORSES." W. S. WOODIN'S OILS OF ODDITIES

EVERY EVENING at Eight, at the POLYGRAPHIC HALL King William-street, Strand. Box-office open from Eleven to Five. Morning Performance every Saturday, at Two o'clock.

THE LION-SLAYER will NOT be AT HOME during Passion Week, but will re-open as usual on the following (Easter) Monday. The Pictures are painted by Messrs. Richard Lethbridge, Harrison Wier, George Thomas, Wolf, Charles Hage, and Phillips. The music conducted by Mr. J. Colson. Admittance, 1s., and 1s. 6d. The Collection on View during the day from 11 to 6. 1s. Children half-price in the Reserved Seats and Stalls.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—PASSION PRINCE ALBERT.—During PASSION WEEK (viz., on the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th) LECTURES ON ASTRONOMY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., with a magnificent Dissolving Orrery and Diagrams, each Morning at 2.30. In the Evenings only, at 8, ASTRONOMY; with Haydn's sublime CREATION, by a Band and Chorus of Fifty Performers, under Mr. W. W. of the Royal Italian Opera. Performances of the eminent V. C. S. & C. are suspended. N.B.—The Price List will be entirely suspended. A. H. & C. 1s. Children and Schools half-price.

ROYAL PANOPTICON.—PASSION WEEK.—On Monday, 17th, and Wednesday, 19th, a selection of sacred Music; and on Tuesday, 18th, and Thursday, 20th, Handel's "Messiah" (two first parts). Principal Singers, Miss Ransford, Mr. George Perren, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Drayton, and a selected chorus. Mr. E. F. Chipp will preside at the Grand Organ. To commence each Evening, at 8.15. Lectures on Astronomy each day by Mr. C. F. Partington, illustrated by an Orrery. Admittance, 1s. Doors open, Morning, 12 to 5; Evening, 7 to 10.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, consisting of 1000 highly-interesting Models, representing every part of the Human Frame in health and disease; also, the various Races of Men, &c. Open for Gentlemen (only) from Ten till Ten. Lecture delivered at Twelve, Two, and Four, Morning; and Half-past Seven, Evening, by Dr. SEXTON, and at Half-past Eight by Dr. KAHN. Admission, 1s., 4s., Coventry-street, Leicester-square.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The Palace and Park are Open to the Public on Mondays at Nine a.m., and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, at Ten a.m., on which days the admission is 1s.; and on Saturdays at Noon, when the admission is 5s.; closing each day at six p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance by railway, may be obtained at the London-bridge Terminus, and at the several agents in London. Trains run from London-bridge to the Crystal Palace Station at 8.0 a.m., 9.0 a.m., and every half-hour from 10.10 a.m. to 4.10 p.m., and at 4.25, 4.50, and 5.50 p.m.; returning from the Crystal Palace at short intervals throughout the day up to 6.40 p.m.

ART-UNION of LONDON (by Royal Charter).—Prizeholders select for themselves from the Public Exhibitions. Every subscriber of One Guinea will have, besides the chance of a Prize, an impression on a Plate of "Harvest in the Highlands,"—engraved by J. T. Willmore, A.R.A., from the important and well-known picture by Sir E. Landseer, R.A., and Sir Augustus Wall, R.A. The Prints are now ready for delivery.

GEORGE GODWIN, } Hon. Secy. LEWIS POOCOCK, } Hon. Secy.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

This day, price 10s. 6d.,
THE DAISY CHAIN: or, Aspirations. A Family Chronicle. By the Author of "The Heir of Redclyffe," &c. London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

SAUERWEIN'S TURKISH DICTIONARY. Just published, price Five Shillings, 12mo, cloth, A DICTIONARY of the ENGLISH and TURKISH LANGUAGES. By G. SAUERWEIN. WILLIAMS and NORGATE, 11, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, London; and 20, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh.

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Just published, price 5s., 12mo, cloth boards, A SELECTION of GERMAN POETRY for the Use of Schools and Private Instruction. By H. APEL, German Master at King Edward's School, Birmingham. WILLIAMS and NORGATE, 11, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, London; and 20, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh.

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Pattern for inspection sent postage-free, and all parcels amounting



BOSTON ELECTION.—THE MEETING IN THE CORN EXCHANGE.

(Continued from page 278.)

and I solemnly assert, in the face of this crowded meeting, that nothing shall make me betray your interests (Loud cheers, followed by three distinct rounds).

The Chairman said he did not know whether Mr. Ingram had not laid himself open to a charge of treating; for he had several times given them intellectual treats, by bringing down amongst them a number of the leading *literati* of the metropolis, several of whom yet remained, and among them was the editor of the world-wide famous *Punch*. (Three cheers for *Punch* were then called for and heartily given.)

Mr. Mark Lemon returned thanks in a humorous speech.

Mr. R. R. Moore, who was very cordially received, dilated in eloquent terms upon the glorious termination of the contest. Since the passing of the Reform Bill he had calculated that about £60,000 had been spent in parliamentary contests in the borough. This money, if properly

applied, would have made the cut at the mouth of their river (which was so much required to improve the navigation), provided docks, and restored to Boston a portion of that trade for which it had in former times been so eminent (Cheers). It would also have built schools and provided teachers for all the poor lads now running about the streets in a state of deplorable ignorance (Hear, hear). Instead of this the money had been spent in brutalising and debasing the people. He trusted that this election was the commencement of a new era, the precursor of the "good time coming" of which their friend Charles Mackay had so eloquently sung

M. Staniland, Esq., who was most enthusiastically received, said he had predicted a victory, but was not prepared for such a triumphant one as had been obtained. Much of the success was owing to the unremitting exertions of Mr. Ingram's committee, who had been unremitting in their exertions (Cheers).

The Rev. T. W. Mathews, Mr. Burrell (a working man), Mr. T. Small

(surgeon), Mr. Grant, Mr. W. W. Tuxford, and other gentlemen addressed the meeting; which terminated at a late hour with three hearty good cheers for Mr. Ingram and the Old Blue cause of liberty, progress, and reform.

Thus terminated the Boston election, which, it will be seen, was conducted throughout with the greatest good feeling and courtesy. With one or two paltry exceptions, which were at once frankly repudiated by Mr. Adams, there were none of those stupid squibs and scurrilous attacks on private character issued which in former times were considered the usual concomitants of contested elections. We trust the Liberals of Boston will take confidence from the result, and at the next general election, which may be expected in a few months, they will, to use the words of Mr. R. Moore, not be satisfied with returning one Liberal and one Tory, but will endeavour to secure the election of "two good men and true" to represent them in the national Legislature.—*Boston and Louth Guardian*.



BOSTON ELECTION.—DECLARATION OF THE RETURN.



SCENE FROM THE NEW PLAY OF "THE FIRST PRINTER," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.

THE "FIRST PRINTER."

We commented last week on the distinguished literary merits of this successful play, and expressed our approbation of the manner in which it was acted; so that it now only remains for us to describe in greater detail the particular scene which our Artist has chosen for illustration. It is in the second act, and represents the two principal characters—the hero and the

evil genius of the piece—*Laurence Costar* (Mr. Charles Kean), and *John of Gutenberg* (Mr. Ryder). *Costar*, in the simplicity and confidence of his soul, has just divulged the secret of his printing-press to his crafty companion; and the two are making impressions of revolutionary document which the former has undertaken to copy. It is in this portion of the performance that *Costar* bequeaths the art of printing to mankind, and, prophet-like, foresees the manifold blessings that will result from it.

Our Artist has represented Mr. Kean in the act of delivering the impassioned address on fame, which has occasioned so much encomium in the press and in private circles.

IRON AND GLASS BUILDING IN GLASGOW.
THIS edifice—of striking character, whether as regards novelty of design or



NEW IRON AND GLASS WAREHOUSE AT GLASGOW.

materials—is now in course of erection in Jamaica-street, Glasgow. This building has a frontage of eighty-seven feet to Jamaica-street on the east, and fifty-five feet to Ann-street on the south. The two fronts represented are composed entirely of cast iron and British plate glass.

The front towards Jamaica-street is divided into four, and that towards Ann-street into three, compartments, separated by panelled pilasters, which, with horizontal girders opposite the floor joists, form the principal framing of the two fronts. The interior is supported by pillars placed transversely and longitudinally opposite these pilasters, and tied to one another and to the exterior framing, and also to the gable walls, by cast-iron girders and a recently-patented framed girder constructed so as not to occupy more space than the depth of the flooring and joisting. The floors are composed of timber, the joisting in each alternate floor running east and west and north and south the whole length and width of the building respectively, and being fixed to the front girders and gable walls. The upper floor is lighted by skylights having a northern exposure, and the gutters between the different compartments of the roof are of cast iron, of sufficient strength to carry the roof spars.

All the divisions, arches, entablatures, dados, great cornice, and all other outside work of fronts are attached to the pilasters and outside girders formerly referred to. The windows are to have wood frames, and every alternate sash is to be hung on centre-pivots at top and bottom, so as to admit of ventilation and facility for cleaning the glass. This entire fabric is constructed over a sunk flat, which is built of stone, and the principal uprights are set on granite blocks.

Another peculiarity connected with this building is the construction of the shutters, closing in the shop windows and doors. They are made in two pieces in the height, of plate iron, and extending the whole width of each compartment. The upper portion of the shutters run up into a recess behind the frieze cornice and dado over the shop windows; while the lower portion runs down the stone pier, and being hung by pulleys and chairs, so as to balance one another, are opened and shut with remarkable ease and expedition.

The general features of the building are—lightness of construction, giving great admission of light, unobstructed floor room, and facility of division, to suit different classes of tenants. One powerful heating apparatus is being made to heat the whole premises.

The framed girders above referred to are constructed of malleable iron flat bars at top and bottom, having cast-iron distending frames or blocks placed between them and secured together by malleable iron bolts, spaces being left for the joists to pass through the girder, the only part of which below the joists is the bottom flat bar.

These girders and the shop shutters to be used at this building have been invented by Mr. Robert McConnel, the contractor for the iron work, and are now secured by patent.

MALTA, FEB. 13.—An act of great heroism took place here last week by the Rev. Mr. Robinson, Chaplain to the forces. A Mr. and Mrs. Evans, with their son, about eight years old, were crossing from Valetta to Vittoriosa, when the little fellow, in endeavouring to catch hold of a piece of stick, overbalanced himself, and instantly sank before the eyes of his parents. Mr. Robinson, who was following in another boat, seeing what had occurred, immediately jumped into the sea, and succeeded in bringing him, apparently dead, into it. Mr. Evans, the father of the boy, feeling much gratified for what the rev. gentleman had done, sent him a cheque for £500, which was at once returned. The two gentlemen who have so unexpectedly become acquainted with each other are relatives and members of branches of the same family; but, in consequence of differences which took place many years ago, they had not seen each other since their boyhood, and each was ignorant of the other's residence in the island until this singular introduction. Mr. Robinson was lately curate of St. Paul's, and served throughout the latter part of the siege of Malta as Chaplain to the forces: having volunteered for duty in the trenches during the final bombardment, he was struck in the breast by a Minie ball, which providentially lodged in a Prayer-book in his pocket, knocking him down, but doing him no further injury.

MEDAL OF THE ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—This medal was designed and executed by the late eminent engraver, Mr. Wm. Wyon, R.A., of the Royal Mint. He always spoke of this medal, which he executed when a very young man, as one of his best productions. He therefore invariably selected it for exhibition with his other works. It appears that the Royal National Life-boat Institution has voted to officers and others, since its establishment in 1824, seventy-nine gold medallions and 55 silver medals for distinguished services in rescuing life from shipwreck. Some of these medals have also been presented by the society to the fair sex, in admiration of their gallantry in saving life. Since the formation of the institution in 1824, upwards of 9000 lives have been rescued from shipwreck by its life-boats and other means; and for which services the institution has voted honorary and pecuniary rewards amounting together to more than £9000.

SPANISH BANDITI.—A letter from Madrid says:—"Count de Villariego, who had been carried off by banditti into the mountains of Toledo, has been liberated, on the payment, by his family, to the brigands of a sum of 600 gold ounces, independently of the ransom of 10,000 piasters, which the commander of the civic guard intercepted on their way to the mountains. It appears that those robbers possess a certain degree of education. They began by telling their prisoner that he had nothing to fear for his life, but that they might be obliged to take him with them into Portugal. All we want, said they, is to make a good job. They supplied him with blankets at night, and when provisions became scarce they situated themselves in order to augment his pittance. He was asked if he had lately attended at the representations of the Royal Theatre, and heard Ronconi. On his replying in the negative, the chief exclaimed that such indifference on his part was truly unpardonable."

avalanche in SWITZERLAND.—A second avalanche has fallen in the mountainous passes of Switzerland. On the 23rd ult. a train of ten sledges was overtaken by an avalanche on the St. Gotthard. Five of the sledges were driven down a precipice with all their passengers, only three persons escaping—Prince Lubkowitz, his servant, and one of the drivers. By the efforts of these and some persons who happened to be near the spot, nine other persons were immediately rescued, but a tenth, M. Fragnani, was not got out until he had been lying for about twenty minutes covered to the depth of five feet, by which he was so much injured as not to be able to pursue his journey. It was found necessary to leave him at a neighbouring house to recover, while the other passengers continued their journey.

WATER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE BALTIC AND BLACK SEAS.—The blockade of the Russian-Baltic provinces and the Black Sea have already led to a new line of communication being opened between the Ukraine, the steppes, and the region around about Odessa and Nikolaieff on the one hand, with the north-west of Europe on the other. The Pansker Canal, which has been for many years in progress, was opened to navigation in the course of last year. It connects the river Bug, which flows into the Vistula, with the river Prigetz, which flows into the Dnieper; and thus it forms the completing link in a chain of water communication extending from the Baltic to the Black Sea. By this route Dantzig has received in the past year 1000 lasts of linseed of unusually good quality (an article that Dantzig has previously never exported), 12,000 cwt. of tallow, which has found purchasers in England and Belgium, and about 15,000 cwt. of hemp, of which only 5000 had been shipped when the navigation closed. There has been also about 10,000 cwt. of tallow dispatched thence to Dantzig, but frozen up on the road from the south, which will also be available at the return of spring. The only portion of the navigation of this line of water communication that is described as wanting improvement is the Bug, to which the attention of the Russian Government has been already amply directed; and we may be sure that, if the war lasts, this defective portion of the connecting route from north to south will not be neglected.—*Letter from Berlin.*

THE WHITE SEA BLOCKADE.—Accounts from the Norwegian ports state that, notwithstanding the armistice, the English Government intends sending a division of light ships of war into the White Sea. Large quantities of coal for the use of the steamers have been already landed in the neutral port of Hammerfest. The Russians have been fortifying the Bay of Archangel at all points. The entrance of the channel to Archangel port has been rendered unnavigable for ships of large size. Batteries have also been erected on both sides of the bay. Several ships of war and two new steamers for the Imperial navy have been built at Archangel since the departure of the Allied squadron, and are, at this moment, completing their armament in that port.

THE CONCORDAT IN TUSCANY.—The effects of the Austrian Concordat with Rome are making themselves felt in Tuscany, where the most strenuous endeavours are made to move the Grand Duke to abolish the Leopoldine laws, the last remains of the former liberal régime. The attempt has not been fully successful; but it is understood that as a concession the severity of the laws against the press will be increased.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.—In spite of all the "humbug" of the *North* in *Paris*, the preparations for war and for defence are in progress; the bays and sea-ports are being taken up all along the coast; the harbours at all points are no longer to be had; the vessels in Crondstadt are being refitted for the heavy service of ice and snow in which they have been employed during the winter, and the crews are fully occupied for the present in scraping and scrubbing, in painting and holly-stooping. This activity is also kept up to the necessary degree of unremission by the frequent visits of inspection which the Grand Duke Constantine pays them. All the high officers in command of the northern, Berg, Gräfelf, and Novgorod, have, after delivering in their reports to the late Council of War, left St. Petersburg for their respective posts; the Vice-Admirals and Commanders of the marine fortresses, Helsingfors, Sveaborg, and Crondstadt, of the Marine Guard and the two divisions of the fleet, are as busily engaged in their preparations for defence as though the allied fleet was already through the Baltic. Prince Menschikoff, however, comes in a very ill state of health, as he was when he returned from the Crimea; and it is thought he will hardly be strong enough to undertake the arduous duties of the office of General Governor of Crondstadt.—*Letter from Berlin.*

NOTICES OF NEW INVENTIONS, &c.

BY JOHN BOURNE, C.E.

PLoughing by STEAM.

At a meeting of the Society of Arts, on the 5th instant, at which Prince Albert presided, some pertinent remarks on ploughing by steam were made by Mr. Allen Ransome. "There are many and various means," says Mr. Ransome, "of effecting steam-ploughing; but certain it is that the experiment is too great for any one individual—too large for individual enterprise. The cost of inventions, of experiments, of trials, and of errors, is enough to drain the deepest purse, and break the strongest heart. I have no hesitation in saying that, if the object is to be accomplished in a reasonable time, as it is a matter which would result in great national good it should be made a matter of national cost. The funds, I believe, are all that is wanting to bring about some arrangement which will have a practical effect. Until some such general fund is obtained, we shall go on hoping, each hope to end in disappointment." In these remarks I am in a great measure concurred; and it would be regarded by the nation as a wise expenditure of the public money if the Government were to place £100,000 at the disposal of the Royal Agricultural Society for helping to develop practically the capabilities of the best ten plans for accomplishing ploughing by steam—those plans being selected by a committee constituted for that special purpose.

In a paper on "Cultivation by Steam," lately read before the Society of Arts, by Mr. Fowler, the various expedients for ploughing by steam which have been propounded at different times are enumerated and explained; and Mr. Fowler divides the whole of these expedients into six classes:—

1. Locomotive engines drawing agricultural implements. In this class the necessary reaction to enable the carriage to advance is obtained either by the bite of the wheels on the ground, by winding up a chain of which the end is fixed in the ground, by using rack-rails laid along the ground, in which the wheels gear, or by causing the engine to thrust out legs behind to force on the vehicle.

2. Locomotive engines, working ploughs, or cultivating arms, placed on a horizontal revolving shaft.

3. Rotatory cultivator driven by steam in some unexplained way.

4. Portable engines employed to wind ropes which draw ploughs or other cultivating implements.

5. Portable engines giving motion to endless ropes for working windlasses that draw agricultural implements.

6. Portable engines driving endless ropes which work rotatory cultivators.

These six classes, however, all resolve themselves into two main divisions—the direct and the indirect modes of communicating the power; and Mr. Fowler seems to give the preference to the latter alternative. He says:—"There are various schemes patented in the last few years for rotatory cultivators worked by locomotive engines, all varying only in detail; and it has been the favourite subject of many of our agricultural writers. But I believe that a little consideration would have saved them all much pains and expense; as if there is one point more difficult than another from which to approach our subject it is in this direction. The enormous weight of the engines required in which an ordinary farm pressure of steam is used, and the weight necessary to give sufficient strength to the drums and frames; the difficulty of steering such a great load to the nicely required for field operations; the yet unknown difficulties that may meet the rotatory cultivator—though at first sight I confess it appears well adapted to the work; to say nothing of the power wasted in moving such a weight over arable land and up ever so slight an incline, might well deter the most sanguine from any attempt of this kind."

From these conclusions I dissent altogether, and I believe that when the problem of ploughing by steam has passed the experimental stage into practical adoption it will be by some species of direct-acting apparatus that the success will be achieved. I look upon it as indispensable to a perfectly satisfactory result that not only ploughing but sowing and harrowing shall also be accomplishable by the same apparatus; and I also consider that any apparatus which involves the use of ropes, windlasses, or other scattered complications, are not likely to prove satisfactory in practice. An air-engine will probably be found to be preferable to a steam-engine as the source of power, as the weight of the water and of the boiler can thus be got rid of; and an air-engine may be made that will be much more simple in its construction than any steam-engine now in use. There is no power lost in ascending declivities that is not recovered in descending declivities, unless the declivity be supposed to be so great that the mere gravitation of the carriage down it will more than suffice for the ploughing operation, so that part of the power has to be expended upon a break. In practice, however, the declivity can never be so great as to involve this result, especially if the machine be tolerably light, and if a deep cut be taken in the ground. Whatever may be the subordinate features of the apparatus, the engine should be one that is applicable to the general work of the farm, and should be capable not merely of thrashing corn, and performing the other functions devolving on a fixed engine, but should also be capable of acting as a steam-horse for drawing waggons and other heavy loads. There is no difficulty in the combination of these various functions in one machine without adding materially to the expense that is not superable readily by the ingenuity and mechanical resources of the present makers of agricultural engines, who have heretofore succeeded in meeting all the demands made upon their skill and ingenuity to the satisfaction of the public and to their own emolument and fame.

MINE EXPLOSIONS CAUSED BY REVOLVING STORMS.

Explosions of coal-mines are caused by the ignition of a mixture of coal gas and atmospheric air. The escape of coal gas into mines is increased with every diminution of the atmospheric pressure, and also with every increase of the temperature of the atmosphere. The great storms which sweep over Great Britain and the continent of Europe during the autumnal and winter months take their rise among the West India Islands. In the cyclones of the northern hemisphere the wind turns in a direction contrary to the hands of a watch, so that during revolving storms the pressure of the atmosphere is not only reduced, but a warm wind blows from the southward. These are precisely the circumstances which are conducive to the liberation of coal gas in mines, and at the same time the warmth of the air reduces the effective ventilation of the mines. In a report on this subject by Mr. Dobson, of St. John's College, Cambridge, it is stated that in October, 1821, during a regular West Indian hurricane which swept over Great Britain, no less than five explosions occurred. In November, 1822, two great explosions took place during a severe storm; and in January, 1844, and November, 1850, serious explosions occurred under like circumstances. There are generally premonitory symptoms in mine explosions which, if attended to in time, will abate the danger to a very material extent.

IMPROVED BLOWING-ENGINES.

Messrs. Boulton and Watt have constructed some very compact engines for blowing the smelting furnaces of the East Indian Iron Company. The steam-cylinder is set upon the top of a blowing-cylinder of large dimensions. The blowing-cylinder is fitted with a piston in the same manner as the steam-cylinder, and the two pistons are connected, and move simultaneously. The movement of the piston within the blowing-cylinder forces out the air like a bellows, and this air blows the furnaces. The main feature of novelty in this engine lies in the valves by which the air is admitted to and passes from the blowing-cylinder, and which consists of a ring of metal closing perforations all round the cylinder with a view of giving as large a passage as possible to the entering and escaping fluid. This valve is made under Mr. slate's patent; but, some years before the date of Mr. slate's patent, I invented and made public this identical valve. The depth of the metallic ring, which constitutes the valve, is about the same as the depth of the piston; and I proposed to work it up or down like an annular piston of short stroke; or to work it a short distance round the cylinder, and then back again; or to work it round and round the cylinder continuously, with a slow motion, by appropriate gearing.

CIRCULAR WEAVING.

Cloth is at present woven in a flat sheet, or web, by means of a shuttle driven from side to side carrying a thread; and the operation is, in fact, a species of darning, only the loom lifts up and presses down every alternate thread to enable a needle so large as the shuttle is to pass through. Now it is clear that, instead of the cloth being formed in a flat sheet, it might be formed in a pipe if the threads among which the shuttle has to pass were arranged vertically in a circular form, and the shuttle were made to pursue a circular track among them. The difficulty of a loom formed upon this principle is, that as there is a wall of threads upon the outside of the shuttle, and a wall of threads on the inside, it would be impossible to extend an arm from the central axis of the machine to drive the shuttle round; and it is difficult, therefore, to see in what way the shuttle can be driven. For some years past I have been considering how a circular loom could be made that would enable a satisfactory connection to be

formed between the shuttle and the moving parts of the machine; and some of the modes which occurred to me I may here recite. One mode was to form the shuttle of iron, and to cause powerful magnets to revolve as near as possible to the external and internal walls of threads. These magnets would draw round the shuttle. Another mode was to form the shuttle into an electromotive engine, and to convey the electric current to it by means of reeds which pass between the threads to press the thread left by the shuttle upon the cloth already formed. In Normandy's circular loom which has been recently patented, the reeds are made elastic, and propel the shuttle by the pressure which they exert upon the end of it, or upon pulleys attached to it for receiving this pressure without occasioning friction. It appears possible to effect the desired object by the gravity of the shuttle. If a small carriage be placed upon a circular table furnished with an external ledge, the carriage may be made to run round and round the table by inclining the table alternately in every direction. A similar arrangement may be employed to propel the shuttle which will answer to the carriage in the case described.

DESCHAMPS AND VELCOCQ'S DIVING BOAT.

This is a close vessel, weighted so as to be near the specific gravity of water, which is propelled by a screw at the stern, and raised or lowered by inflating or collapsing two gutta-percha tubes. The vessel is furnished with windows at the sides, and with sleeves for enabling a person within to grasp any external object. It is to be lighted by the electric light, which does not consume air. The main feature of novelty appears to be the sleeves.

IMPROVEMENTS IN HOLLOW SHOT AND SHELLS.

Mr. Robert Mallett, of Dublin, has patented an improvement for forming hollow shot, that is marked by his usual ingenuity. He first casts two hemispheres which are placed together in a mould, and molten iron is poured round them. By this expedient he obviates the necessity of using a core of loam which has afterwards to be picked out through a small hole. Mr. Richard Peters has patented another mode of forming hollow shot, which is also very ingenious. He pours the molten metal in the proper quantity through a tube which descends to near the centre of the mould, and the mould is then put into rapid rotation in two directions at right angles with one another. The centrifugal force causes the metal to adhere to the circumference of the mould, leaving the centre hollow.

THE PANTANEMHYDE PROPELLER.

This is a species of propeller invented by M. Michelot Juin d'Allas, of which the principle is that the power of the wind shall aid in the propulsion of a vessel, from whatever quarter it may blow; but the mode in which the principle is to be worked out is not yet made public; and the principle itself is enunciated in a very general and mysterious manner. Several years ago I explained, in my "Treatise on the Screw-Propeller," the practicability of enabling a vessel to sail directly against the wind, by the force of the wind alone, and with a progression greater in the proportion of the force of the wind, so that the stronger it blew the faster would the vessel advance against the storm. This new propeller appears to be a reproduction of this idea. To explain in what manner this idea may be carried out, I may premise that in America and in some other parts of the world there are boats which are propelled upwards against a stream by the force of the stream itself, a project which appears in the "Marquis of Worcester's" "Century of Inventions," published in 1663. One form of apparatus by which this object is effected consists of paddle-wheels placed on each side of the vessel, which wheels are turned round like water-wheels by the stream. On the axis of the wheels a rope is fixed, of which the other end is attached to the bed of the river by an anchor, or otherwise, some distance in advance of the vessel. As the wheels are turned round by the current, the rope is wound upon the axis, and be made to wind up a rope fixed to some stationary object in advance of the ship, it is quite clear that the vessel will be advanced with a degree of rapidity that is proportional to the force of the wind. In a vessel at sea there is of course no stationary object to which a rope could be fixed, but the inertia of the water encountered by a large propeller is sufficient to attain the same end—not indeed without some loss from slip, yet with sufficient completeness to enable the ship to advance in an effectual manner. It will follow, therefore, that if a windmill be erected in a vessel, and be employed to give motion to a large screw propeller, revolving in the water, the vessel so fitted will be able to advance against the strongest winds. No doubt the vessel will be pressed back by the windmill as well as be urged forward by the screw, but these pressures will not balance one another if the apparatus be suitably constructed, and the available impelling pressure will, within certain obvious limits, be greater the more the face of the windmill vanes comes into the direction of the wind, and the more the face of the screw comes into right angles with the keel.

RUSSIAN SERFS.—A ukase recently issued orders that the law of July 11, 1853, according to which such serfs as desire from any cause to become Crown peasants or citizens, with or without land, are, for the term of forty years, to pay higher taxes than other Crown peasants or other citizens, for the purpose of repaying the increased costs incurred by the State on their account, shall be extended to the Transcaucasian provinces, with certain modifications applicable to the locality.—*Letter from Berlin.*

EXHAUSTION OF INDIAN FORESTS.—Almost the last remaining source of supply of timber within British territories is Pegu. There are, it is true, considerable forests of teak still remaining to the westward, within Dr. Gibson's jurisdiction. There are teak "forests" also in Chota Nagpore, but they belong to quasi-independent chiefs, whose barbarian dread of European intercourse leads them positively to deny the fact. There may be patches also on the frontier to the north-east; but all these sources are too remote and possibly too insignificant for a great commerce. Pegu alone remains; and of Pegu Dr. McClelland's report is by no means hopeful. The Burmese Government has overworked the forests—the native squatters have overworked the forests; and this grand source of wealth stands in need rather of renovation than of further drainage.—*Friend of India.*

THE RUSSIANS IN THE PACIFIC.—The *Kreuz Zeitung* says that letters, dated Hong-Kong, in last December, have been received from Lieutenant Mussina Puschkin, belonging to the crew of the *Diana*, and who was taken prisoner by the *Barracouta*, while on board the Bremen brig *Greta*. In these he complains very much of the treatment he has received from our countrymen, but the grounds of complaint are not mentioned. Admiral Stirling, in command of the English force in the Chinese waters, had offered to land him and his comrades at the Nicholas fortress, or to put him on board the Russian fleet the Pacific. The Russian says he has refused this offer, as it would have involved his betraying the mouth of the Amoor or the present position of the Russian ships. He states, also, that the English

FASHION IN FLORICULTURE.

THE history of flowers present many curious examples of the caprice to which all objects of taste and luxury are occasionally subjected by the despotic sway of Fashion. Yet, when we reflect on the whimsical fancies which marked the floral tastes of past generations, it is not a little gratifying to observe the improvement that has supervened. The taste of the present day is decidedly in favour of pure and positive beauty; and the fantastic passion for mere peculiarity may be said to be a thing gone by. Now and then, it is true, we find an amateur lavishing extravagant admiration on a plant for the sake of certain forms or certain colours; but, generally speaking, the favourites of the greenhouse or the parterre are selected with unexceptional taste.

Time was when none but flowers of rare species claimed any share of fashionable regard: indeed, in some instances, the interest attached to floricultural rarities amounted to a sort of fanaticism. When, by the result of accident or skill, a flower possessing any peculiar qualities was produced, it immediately acquired a fashionable notoriety, and its acquisition was eagerly sought at almost any price.

But tastes and manners have changed. Botanists, traversing the globe in every direction, have brought home to us new and curious flowers from distant regions of the earth. Though many of these lovely exotics might have seemed destined to enjoy perpetual favour, and well deserved to be always in fashion, yet, after a time, they have each in their turn been superseded by new introductions.

In addition to the numerous exotics imported, new flowers, in even greater numbers, are continually introduced by floricultural skill. Hybrid productions have become a very lucrative branch of the gardener's craft, and we are indebted for many favourite flowers to the encroachments of art on the domain of nature.

Though a fashionable rage for particular flowers has occasionally led to the strangest absurdities, yet it must not be forgotten that the various floral fashions which have successively enjoyed their seasons of favour have greatly contributed to the adornment of our gardens. But not only have changes in floral taste conferred beauty and variety on our parterres, they have at the same time stimulated the efforts which have brought to perfection various methods of rearing particular flowers.

Holland is the cradle of floriculture. The commercial spirit of the Dutch, which led them to distant lands seldom visited by other nations, enabled them at an early period to become the possessors of many rare plants. Owing to this circumstance, a passion for flowers spread rapidly among all classes in the Netherlands.

In Holland the love for flowers has had its influence on art and manufactures. The beauty of design which usually distinguishes the lace of the Netherlands may fairly be attributed to the floral taste generally diffused among the people. Still more remarkable is the influence of that taste on the works of the Dutch painters. The marvellous perfection which the art of flower-painting attained in Holland during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is attested by the works of Van Breughel and many others.

The Dutch soon turned their love of flowers to profitable account. With them floriculture not only became the source of extensive traffic, but it led to the scheme of making flowers the objects of monetary speculation in another way. Who has not heard of the *Tulipomania* which raged in Holland about the middle of the seventeenth century? Amsterdam, Haarlem, Utrecht, Leyden, Rotterdam, and Horn were thrown into a fever of agitation by this epidemic. But the extravagances recorded of the Dutch tulip-fanciers were not in all instances prompted merely by the desire of possessing rare and curious specimens of the favourite flower. On the contrary, the passion for tulips was frequently a mere cloak to conceal the passion for gambling. Tulip speculations were carried on in the same manner as stock-jobbing transactions. A speculator would bid several thousand florins for a tulip which he had never seen, and was never destined to possess, and which he would in his turn engage to deliver to another purchaser at a given time. This sort of speculation reached such an excess that it occasioned ruin and bankruptcy to many families.

The prices stated to have been given for tulips by the Dutch florists of that time seem almost incredible. The value of bulbs rose almost as high as that of the precious metals. Enormous bets were laid on the eventual superiority of promising seedling bulbs, and flowers from which fine seedlings were to be expected realised sums the amount of which was really greater than what they now seem to be, on account of the higher value of money at the time. The spirit of floral gambling to which the *Tulipomania* gave birth reached an incredible excess about the year 1636. On one occasion during the height of this madness twelve acres of land were given for a single root, and engagements equivalent in amount to £5000 were contracted for a tulip of superior quality. When it happened that a bidder could not be found willing to offer a sum equal to the ideal value of a fine flower of this kind, it was disposed of by way of lottery or raffle.

A ludicrous story is related of a sailor who, having been sent to convey a package of goods to the warehouse of a merchant in Amsterdam, had a herring given to him along with his *trink-geld*. Seeing what he supposed to be a number of small onions lying on a table, he carelessly took up a handful, and ate them with the dried herring for his breakfast. These supposed onions proved to be tulip-bulbs of such high value that it was estimated a magnificent *déjeuner* might have been given to the heads of the Dutch Government at less expense than the cost of the condiment to which the luckless sailor had unwittingly helped himself. In the year 1637 the ruinous and absurd tulip speculations were suppressed in Holland by a proclamation issued by the Dutch Government.

The *Tulipomania* extended in a partial degree to Paris, where extravagant prices were frequently paid for flowers and bulbs; but in that gay city tulip-fancying, like other fashions, had merely an ephemeral existence. After raging for a time, it died away and was forgotten. It is probable that the unsettled state of public affairs in England at the period in question saved us from the visitation of the *Tulipomania*.

The next phase in floral fashion was marked by the high favour bestowed upon the Ranunculus, a flower originally imported from the Levant about the year 1580. The Turks cultivated the Asiatic ranunculus for several ages before it was generally known in other parts of Europe. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth we were accustomed to send to the East for ranunculus roots. Gerard, in his "Herbal," tells us that one kind of ranunculus "grew naturally in and about Constantinople, and in Asia, on the further side of the Bosphorus, from whence there hath been brought plants at divers times, and by divers persons; but they have perished by reason of the long journey and want of skill in the bringers, that have suffered them to be in a boxe, or such like, so long that when we have received them they have been as dry as ginger. My Lord and maister, the Right Honourable the Lord Treasurer had divers plants sent him from thence, which were dry before they came, as aforesaid." But from the time of old Gerard to the period when the ranunculus became fashion's favourite flower, considerable advancement was made in its cultivation. In 1620 eight varieties were known. In 1665 that number was increased to upwards of twenty; and then, after the lapse of a little time, several hundreds were enumerated. Almost simultaneously with the ranunculus another Eastern flower, the Anemone, made its appearance in Europe, and won general admiration. But neither the ranunculus nor the anemone ever rose to an exaggerated value, or obtained exorbitant prices.

About the close of the seventeenth century the Hyacinth began to be an especial object of floricultural care. The beauty of this flower soon rendered it a successful rival to the tulip, even in the hearts of the Dutch florists. The hyacinth is a native of the Levant, and it grows abundantly about Aleppo and Bagdad. It seems to have been common in our English gardens, even prior to the year 1597, and it is supposed that hyacinth bulbs and seeds were brought to this country during the early part of the reign of Elizabeth.

One of the earliest cultivators of the double hyacinth was Peter Værholm, a Dutch florist, who lived about the beginning of the last century. Before his time, none but the single kind of hyacinth had been propagated. Værholm gave to his favourite double hyacinth, the name of "Mary," in honour of our English Queen. Unfortunately that species of hyacinth is now lost. On the third double hyacinth which Værholm succeeded in bringing to perfection he conferred the title of "King of Great Britain" (William III), and this is now the oldest double hyacinth known. A bulb of the "King of Great Britain," used to be sold in Holland for a thousand florins, or about one hundred pounds sterling. During the fashionable rage for hyacinths, two hundred pounds was no uncommon price for a favourite flower.

In the course of time the hyacinth was produced in hundreds of varieties, and bulbs fell so considerably in price as to come within the reach of even the humblest flower-fanciers. During a considerable period all our bulbs were imported from Holland, the Dutch florists having established a monopoly in growing hyacinths, for which the soil of Haarlem, in particular, was supposed to be favourable. But the gardeners of Berlin having directed their attention to hyacinths, they succeeded in rearing them so well that they soon supplied bulbs to the whole of Germany, besides exporting them in considerable numbers to foreign countries.

From the hyacinth the votaries of floral fashion transferred their favour to the Pink and the Auricula. The taste for these two flowers arose about the beginning of the last century; and for the space of a hundred years they almost exclusively engrossed the attention of amateurs.

The native land of the pink is not known with any positive certainty; but there is reason to believe that it came to us from the mountainous regions of Southern Europe. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the pink was known in England by the name of the "wild gillyflower." Mention is even made of this flower in some of the old romances of chivalry; and it has been conjectured that it was originally brought from Tunis, by Saint Louis, as early as the year 1270. This supposition derives support from the fact that the pink anciently bore the names of *tunica* and *herba tunica*.

No flower more than the pink owes its beauty and variety to the labour of the gardener. That it early became the object of floricultural care in our own country may be inferred from the remark of one of the oldest English botanists, who says, "The Garden Gelouers are made so sweet by the labour and witte of man, and not by nature." The pink was much cultivated in England during the early part of the seventeenth century, and many fine varieties of this flower were known in the reign of Charles I. But it was not until the last century, when the rage for the bulbous plants of Holland began to decline, that the pink became really a fashionable flower. An English catalogue, printed in 1702, enumerates no fewer than 360 varieties.

The art of rearing pinks was brought to marvellous perfection by the gardeners of Flanders, Brabant, and Hainault, and from these places the finest species were scattered through Europe. Pinks gradually rose into such importance, that about the year 1820, there existed several hundred botanical publications exclusively referring to those flowers. Floral systems were established on the art of rearing pinks, with the view of producing certain colours, marks, and forms; and the arbitrary laws laid down on this subject were so rigorously observed that collectors would reject specimens, however beautiful, if they did not strictly accord with prescribed conditions.

About the beginning of the present century the introduction of numerous new flowers occasioned a decided decline in the rage for pinks, and from 1820 to 1830 choice collections became more and more rare. At length this once-favourite flower fell into unmerited neglect, until it was partially restored to favour by the discovery of the method of flowering in winter as well as in summer. But what this flower has lost in aristocratic patronage it has gained in popular regard. The pink has become the favourite of the poor. It forms one of the principal ornaments of the cottager's garden, and in most manufacturing districts pots of pinks ranged on the window-sills shed refreshing fragrance into the rooms of the workpeople. The partiality of the manufacturing classes for pinks is proverbial on the Continent, as well as in our own country: it is particularly remarkable in Paisley, at Verviers, in Belgium; and in several towns of Germany and Switzerland.

The auricula, which enjoyed but a brief interval of fashionable vogue, is a native of the Alps, whence it was first brought by Flemish botanists. This flower has been cultivated for several centuries. Our old English botanist Gerard, writing in the year 1597, calls it "Bare-a-ears," and observes, "it do grow in our London gardens." The cultivation of the auricula attained high perfection about the close of the last and the beginning of the present century. English florists, especially those of Lancashire, have been celebrated for rearing this flower. In the art of flowering the auricula the English have outstripped even the Dutch. About a century ago, when this flower was much in fashion, vast importance was attached to its form, marks, and colours; but the auricula was never so extensively cultivated nor propagated in such numerous varieties as the pink.

Among the flowers that have excited the mania of fashion in our time, the Dahlia stands foremost. It may, indeed, be said with truth that the Dahlia mania of the nineteenth century, though fortunately unattended by any mischievous effects, was not less general than the *Tulipomania* by which our ancestors of the seventeenth century were so fearfully agitated. The mother plant, with single flowers of a light red hue, was sent from Mexico in the year 1789 to the superintendent of the Botanic Garden at Madrid. From Spain it was transferred to the Jardin des Plantes in Paris, where, being considered a botanical rarity, it was cultivated only in the greenhouse. In the same year in which the dahlia was brought to Europe from the New World, it was introduced to this country by Lady Bute, who procured it from Madrid. But, owing to want of care or judgment in the cultivation, these plants were entirely lost to our gardens until seeds were reintroduced by Lady Holland in the year 1804. In 1814 the seeds of a new species of dahlia of a dark red hue were brought from Mexico to Paris, and from those seeds have been propagated all the beautiful varieties which now form the most conspicuous ornaments of our autumnal parterres. The first double flowers were obtained in the year 1820; and before 1830 double flowers, in every variety of colour, were cultivated in most parts of Europe, particularly in Germany and England.

The dahlia attained supremacy in floral fashion about five-and-twenty years ago, when the German florists obtained from England large supplies of plants and seeds, for which extravagantly high prices were paid. At present the finest dahlias are reared in Germany, and the locality in which they are produced in the greatest beauty is Kœstritz, in the principality of Reuss. When the cultivation of the dahlia was supposed to have attained its utmost perfection attention was directed to the production of the blue dahlia, for which large sums have been offered.

Among the plants cultivated in pots during the last half-century none has been more highly admired than the Hydrangea. This plant is very commonly cultivated in the gardens of China and Japan, whence it was

procured by Sir Joseph Banks, who presented it to the Royal Gardens at Kew in the year 1790. On its first introduction into England it excited the highest interest and admiration; and when it became known in Paris it was so eagerly sought for, and bore so high a price, that it made the fortune of the florist who procured the first plants from England. Possibly no exotic was ever been naturalised and propagated so rapidly as the hydrangea. In an incredibly short space of time it made its way from the hothouse to the balcony, and from thence to the humblest village-gardens throughout England. The flowers, though odourless, retain their beauty for a considerable length of time, and the plant is easy of cultivation; circumstances which sufficiently account for the general favour extended to it. If the hydrangea created a great sensation on its first appearance in this country, the interest attached to it was vastly increased when, by the employment of ferruginous earth, blue flowers were produced.

The Pelargonium, which was brought to Europe from the Cape of Good Hope about the end of the last century, has been so transformed by cultivation that its analogy to the mother plant is now apparent only in the leaves. From 1825 to 1835 the pelargonium invaded our gardens, to the exclusion of many flowers certainly not less beautiful than itself. It afterwards fell into neglect; but a few years ago it was restored to favour, in consequence of the production of some pelargoniums of rare beauty, and possessing the recommendation of continuing long in flower.

The Camellia is, as it justly deserves to be, one of our most favourite exotics. This lovely flower is a native of Japan and China: it was imported in the year 1789. For nearly a century it was admired as a rarity in the greenhouse and the conservatory; but, about the year 1830, it began to be more generally known, and soon became the most fashionable of flowers. At the present time no ball-room bouquet or bridal-wreath is complete without the camellia. This flower derives its name from Joseph Kamel, a Jesuit missionary, who was the first to bring it to Europe. In beauty of form and colour the camellia rivals the rose; and it acquires additional charms from its magnificent foliage, and from the advantage of its flowering throughout the winter.

The Fuchsia, though long admired and cultivated by amateurs of taste, did not become a general favourite till about five-and-twenty years ago. It is a native of Chile, in South America; and, though it has now become familiar to most parts of Europe, it was unknown to the Old World until the year 1788, when it was first placed in the Royal Gardens at Kew. This plant derives its name from Leonard Fuchs, a celebrated German botanist. The fuchsia, in its native land, attains the dimensions of a large tree; and when laden with its scarlet blossoms, its aspect, as described by travellers, is wonderfully beautiful. In our own country this plant (now completely naturalised) is cultivated from the palace to the cottage. Since the introduction into Europe of several new kinds of fuchsia, we have obtained by artificial propagation those numerous varieties which now ornament our gardens and balconies.

The Pansy, or Heart's-ease is a flower which owes its present beauty to cultivation. During the last few years it has been in great demand, and many gardeners succeed in rearing pansies of the size of a dollar, and exhibiting the most rich and delicate hues. Formerly pansies were of two colours only, violet and yellow; but now these colours are combined with white, and with various shades of purple and brown. The effect of these variegated pansies when planted in masses is wonderfully brilliant, and

* The leaves of this plant are thought to resemble the ears of the Bear, for which reason botanists gave it the Latin name of *Auricula Ursi*.

† The name Dahlia was conferred on this plant in honour of Andrew Dahl, a Swedish botanist, and a pupil of Linnaeus.

well accounts for the favour in which these flowers have been held for some years past.

About ten or twelve years ago the attention of amateur florists was greatly engaged by cactuses, orchids, and plants of fantastic forms. These gnomes of the greenhouse had their reign of fashion, during which their varieties became numerous and their forms infinite. But the interest which these plants excited died away when the eye became familiarised with that singularity of aspect to which, when first introduced, they owed their chief attraction.

In latter times floral fashion has run into two separate extremes—dwarf plants, and plants of gigantic dimensions have alike found favour. Among the large flowers the first place must be assigned to the Victoria Regia, that superb queen of the waters whose floating leaves attain, even in Europe, the magnitude of several feet in diameter.

The great Water-Lily of South America is a native of the lagoons of the immense rivers tributary to the Amazon. It was first discovered by Henke in the year 1801, but it was not until nearly forty years later that we obtained any detail of its history. Sir Robert Schomburgk when travelling in British Guiana, in 1837, discovered the water-lily there, and he gave a glowing account of the discovery in a letter addressed to the Royal Geographical Society of London. In his progress up the river Berbice, at a part where it expands and forms a currentless basin, some unknown object attracted the traveller's attention. He was unable to form any idea of what it was, but, animating his boat's crew to increase their rate of paddling, he soon approached the object which had attracted his curiosity. He beheld a vegetable wonder. "There were," he observes, "gigantic leaves, five or six feet across, flat, with a broad rim, light green above and vivid crimson below, floating upon the water; while, in character with the wonderful foliage, I saw luxuriant flowers, each consisting of numerous petals, passing, in alternate tints, from pure white to rose and pink. The smooth water was covered with the blossoms, and, as I rowed from one to the other, I always found something new to admire."

When the great American water-lily first became known in Europe a strong desire was evinced to obtain its introduction into this country in a living state; but it was not until after a series of futile attempts that the Victoria Regia was successfully introduced into the exotic aquarium at Kew, where it sprang from seeds in 1849.

That decided error of taste, Liliputian gardening, gained only a short-lived favour. For this fashion we were probably indebted to the Chinese, who bestow infinite pains on the cultivation of dwarf flowers and plants.

Fortunately there seems little reason to apprehend that bad taste in gardening will ever regain any considerable ascendancy. The feeling for the beautiful in nature is now so universally diffused that any future aberration of taste is not likely to exercise the evil influence of a fashion which all, to a certain extent, may feel inclined to follow.

T. R.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S RESOLUTIONS ON EDUCATION.

The following are the terms of Lord John Russell's resolutions which he intends to move in Committee on Education:—

1. That, in the opinion of this House, it is expedient to extend, revise, and consolidate the minutes of the Committee of Privy Council on Education.

2. That it is expedient to add to the present inspectors of Church schools eight sub-inspectors, and to divide England and Wales into eight divisions for the purposes of education.

3. That it is expedient to appoint sub-inspectors of British, Wesleyan, and other Protestant schools not connected with the Church, and also of Roman Catholic schools, according to the present proportions of inspectors of such schools to the inspectors of Church schools.

4. That, on the report of inspectors and sub-inspectors, the Committee of Privy Council should have power to form in each division school districts, consisting of single or united parishes, or parts of parishes.

5. That the sub-inspectors of schools of each division should be instructed to report on the available means for the education of the poor in each school district.

6. That, for the purpose of extending such means, it is expedient that the powers at present possessed by the Commissioners of Charitable Trusts be enlarged, and that funds now useless or injurious to the community be applied to the education of the middle and poorer classes of the community.

7. That it is expedient that in any school district where the means of education, arising from endowment, subscription, grants, and school-pence, shall be found deficient, and shall be declared to be so by the Committee of Privy Council for Education, the ratepayers should have the power of taxing themselves for the erection and maintenance of a school or schools.

8. That, after the 1st day of January, 1858, when any school district shall have been declared to be deficient in adequate means for the education of the poor, the quarter sessions of the peace for the county, city, or borough, should have power to impose a school rate.

9. That, where a school rate is imposed, a school committee, elected by the ratepayers, should appoint the schoolmasters and mistresses, and make regulations for the management of the schools.

10. That, in every school supported in whole or in part by rates, a portion of the Holy Scriptures should be read daily in the school, and such other provision should be made for religious instruction as the school committee may think fit; but that no child should be compelled to receive any religious instruction, or attending any religious worship, to which his or her parents or guardians shall on conscientious grounds object.

11. That employers of children and young persons between nine and fifteen years of age should be required to furnish certificates half-yearly of the attendance of such children and young persons at school, and to pay for such instruction.

12. That it is expedient that every encouragement should be given, by prizes, by diminution of school fees, by libraries, by evening schools, and other methods, to the instruction of young persons between twelve and fifteen years of age.

DIFFERENT accounts having been given of the date and place of Sir Benjamin Fonseca Outram, K.N., C.B., have been published to the *Illustrated London News* for the benefit of Mr. Leoni, at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, on Saturday, April 31, 1787, will be performed the comic opera called "The Duenna." Ferdinand, Mr. Johnstone; Isaac, Mr. Quick; Don Jerome, Mr. Edwin; Antonio, Mr. Davies; Lopez, Mr. Wewitzer; Carlos, Mr. Leon; The Duenna, Mrs. Wilson; Louisa, Mrs. Martyr, and Clara, Mrs. Billington. At the end of Act I, "The Soldier Tired of War's Alarms," by Master Braham, being his first appearance on any stage. When the farce of "The Guardian" is announced, and it is added: "End of the first act of the farce, the favourite song of 'Ma chère Amie,' by Master Braham." The Royalty Theatre (at which it has been generally said that Braham made his first appearance) did not open until the 20



ADMIRAL SIR EDMUND LYONS.

ADMIRAL SIR E. DUDAS.

ADMIRAL HAMELIN.
MARSHAL VAILLANT.

GENERAL DE LA MAR-ORA.

GENERAL BOSQUET.

PRINCE NAPOLEON.
DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

THE EMPEROR.

PRINCE JEROME BONAPARTE.
GENERAL CANROBERT.

SIR HARRY JONES.

THE COUNCIL OF WAR, AT PARIS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE COUNCIL OF WAR, AT PARIS.

The Council of War assembled at the Tuilleries, on the 11th January, under the presidency of the Emperor. It was composed of the following members:—The Emperor, the Prince Napoleon, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Jerome Napoleon, Lord Cowley, Sir Edmund Lyons, Admiral Dundas, Sir Richard Airey, Sir Harry Jones, General della Marmora, Marshal Vaillant, Count Walewski, General Canrobert, General Bosquet, General Niel, General Martimprey, Admiral Hamelin, Admiral de la Gravière, and Admiral Pennaud.

Little is known as to what took place at the various meetings. One of the first steps was the appointment of two committees to draw up reports of the condition of the army and navy. Admiral Lyons and General Canrobert were members of the one; Admiral Dundas and General Niel of the other. The discussion at the sitting of Monday, the 14th of January, was chiefly of a general kind, and included the question of withdrawing the army from the Crimea, but keeping possession of Eupatoria, Kamiesch, Balaklava, and one or two other points.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

It is satisfactory to find that public opinion is becoming closely directed to the expediency of transferring the winding-up of insolvent companies from the Court of Chancery to the Court of Bankruptcy—from a court already overworked, and in which every stage of each case is characterised by delay, mystery, and heavy cost, to a court possessing a staff of officers peculiarly qualified, whether as lawyers or as men of business, to deal with these operations; where the proceedings are straightforward, intelligible, expeditious, and public; and where the expenses are limitable within reasonable compass. The Law Amendment Society, which has taken the matter in hand, has printed the following draught resolutions of the Special Committee on the Joint-stock Companies Bill:—

1. That all trading companies must be subject to the bankrupt laws; that the bill, as it stands, exempts them from the distinguishing principles of bankruptcy, both as to the rateable administration of assets, the prevention of preferments, and the detection and punishment of frauds.

2. That these principles being admitted, the winding-up clauses ought to be expunged as unnecessary, there being now more efficient means to effect all that is required as between partners and shareholders than those proposed.

3. That this bill wisely permits associations for public objects—not carried on for gain—such as mechanics' institutes, clubs, &c., to be incorporated; many of the peremptory clauses of the bill are applicable only to companies held in shares, which such institutions rarely are.

4. That this bill interferes in many ways with the internal regulation of companies, which should be left entirely to the shareholders themselves.

THE CASE OF CAPTAIN DONELLAN.

In your impression of last week is a letter signed John Thomas Rowland, correcting some supposed errors in a paper of mine, on the above subject. I shall be brief in my replies:—

1. In all country houses of the gentry, at the close of the last century, was found an apartment, called a still-room, in which various processes of distillation, &c., were carried on, and of which a still was a common requisite. In all gentlemen's gardens at that time the *Pruno-lauro-cerasus*, too, would be found growing.

2. The medical men on the inquest swore Sir Theodosius was poisoned by arsenic. On the trial, they recanted, and swore he died by laurel-water—*Strum horum mavis accipe*.

3. The fact of the pages of a book being cut only in that portion of the work containing directions for distillation is too trifling to require notice. In my library now lies Dr. Taylor's work on poisons: it is cut only at the alkaloids. I hope Mr. Rowland does not therefore suspect me of getting them up for a nefarious purpose because I have lately had occasion to refer to them!

Lastly, I threw no doubt on the verdict; but, I repeat, the country was not satisfied. The indictment was bad. The medical testimony worthless. The production of a supposititious poisonous draught in Court most unjustifiable; and I am thankful for that improved state of knowledge and feeling in the community which would require far clearer testimony before sanctioning the infliction of capital punishment.

J. G. E.

THE SLAVE TRADE ON THE BRAZILIAN COAST.—An American schooner called the *Mary Smith* attempted to land a cargo of 320 negroes which she had brought from the coast of Africa, but was taken prisoner by the Brazilian brig schooner of war *Olinda*, and taken into Bahia. The commander and crew are all Americans, and were immediately after landing ironed and locked up in the gaol of Bahia. The schooner embarked 500 of the poor blacks from the coast, but they were so closely packed on board, totally naked, and so badly fed during the voyage, that 180 died, and were thrown overboard, and of those landed at Bahia sixty-four died a few hours afterwards. The survivors were immediately fed and clothed, and will be well taken care of until their ultimate destination is resolved upon.—*Letter from Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 13.*

SUSPECTED AMERICAN PRIVATEERS IN RIO.—A misunderstanding arose between the English and French Admirals and the American Commodore in Rio de Janeiro, which at one time wore a rather serious aspect. A steamer called the *America*, from New York to California, put into this port to coal and water. On the eve of her departure, Adm. Johnston received information that the vessel was in reality a Russian privateer in disguise, conveying an enormous quantity of munitions of war, Minie rifles, heavy cannon, &c., to the Pacific, and that the greater number of her officers were Russians. The Admiral immediately pulled on board the *Savannah*, American frigate, and demanded explanations of the Commodore, who, it appears, took rather high ground, and refused to allow a search to be made on board the steamer. Upon this the English Admiral threatened to send his steamers out to overhaul the vessel should she leave the port, and the reply made was that the *Savannah* should be towed out by her to protect the *America* if necessary. Admiral Johnston returned to his frigate, bound his sails to the yards, and made ready for sea, and the *Trident* and *Riflemen* got up their steam, whilst the *Savannah* ran her guns out and actually cleared for action. Subsequently, however, the business was patched up by the Commander of the steamer declaring upon his word of honour that the report was entirely false. The French Admiral, however, declared that he was not satisfied with the explanation. Thus far we know on shore. The *America* towed the *Savannah* out this morning; and the *Indefatigable*, *Riflemen*, *Trident*, and the French frigate *Poursuivante* sailed last night; but whether a collision will take place outside, or whether the *Indefatigable* and *Poursuivante* are in reality gone down to the River Plate, as announced, we cannot say.—*Letter from Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 13.*

THE UNITED STATES NAVY.—The official Navy Register for 1856 has just been issued. It appears that the number of vessels of war of all classes in commission on the 1st of January, 1856, was 31: of which there were in the home squadron, 4; Mediterranean, 3; Brazils, 3; African, 4; Pacific, 5; East Indies, 6; lakes, special service, and preparing for sea, 6. Of the 99 Captains, 14 are at sea; of the 130 Commanders, 30 are at sea; and of the 390 Lieutenants, 161 are at sea. The British Navy List of the 1st January, 1856, gives 301 ships of war in commission, of which 250 are steamers; among which is the *Marlborough*, of 131 guns, and 40 of them (steamers) mount over 60 guns each; "and such few sailing vessels (says the List) as are yet doing duty are set aside as fast as their terms of commission expires." If the heads of our Navy are so anxious to "promote its efficiency," why do they not compel our naval officers to make themselves familiar with steam? In the British Navy no officer can be appointed to the command of any steam-vessel of war who has not passed an examination on steam; and Captains, Commanders, and Lieutenants, as we learn from their Navy List, are ordered to their dockyards "to study steam." In the American Navy such knowledge is deemed unnecessary.—*New York Herald.*

THE CRUISE IN SEARCH OF THE "PACIFIC."—The steamer *Alabama*, which was sent out on the 9th inst. in search of the *Pacific*, returned to port on Sunday morning, having been absent two weeks. She brings no tidings of the lost vessel. The *Alabama* proceeded as far as Cape Race, where she met with large fields of ice, which prevented her further progress. She took a zigzag course, following the usual track of the Collins steamers; sailed round Sable Island, thence to Cape Race, and, returning, put into Halifax, from which port she sailed on Thursday morning last. She spoke some thirty vessels during the cruise, none of which could she gather any news relative to the *Pacific*. Before reaching Cape Race the *Alabama* ran for about eight hours through a field of ice, which is described as presenting a very beautiful and singular appearance. The ice was broken up in small and mostly circular pieces, from one to two feet in diameter, and, being encircled by a ring of snow, they presented the appearance of myriads of plates spread out for a grand banquet in honour of Neptune. On reaching Cape Race, however, the ice gradually grew more compact until it became almost impassable. It is thought by some that the *Pacific*, in attempting to force her way through one of these fields of ice, may have broke down and still remains fast in the ice. If this be the case, the Government ship *Arctic*, which is now in search of her, and which was built for an ice-boat, will probably be able to search her out. The *Alabama* could make but little headway where the ice was compact, and she tore a large portion of the copper from her bottom in the slight attempts she did make. As the *Arctic* left Halifax for Cape Race on the evening of the 21st inst., she has doubtless, ere this, traversed a large portion of the ice-fields in that vicinity, and may perhaps have succeeded in finding and relieving the *Pacific*.—*New York Herald, Feb. 26.*

LITERATURE.

ANCIENT ARMOUR AND WEAPONS IN EUROPE, from the Iron Period of the Northern Nations to the end of the Thirteenth Century; with Illustrations from Contemporary Monuments. By JOHN HEWITT. J. H. and J. Parker.

Mr. Hewitt has taken up an interesting subject in an honest spirit of research. During those long ages in which war was not only in a manner the normal state of society, but seems to have been considered as the grand duty of human existence, arms and armour were articles of the highest degree of importance and consideration; and the history of their various forms and ornaments is closely allied with that of science and art, with that of social condition and manners, and even with that of political revolutions. Mr. Hewitt has judiciously commenced his history with the period when the arms of the people who founded the kingdoms of modern Europe became known to us in a definite manner—that is, at the time of the breaking up of the Roman Empire; and we would only, *en passant*, express our regret that he should adopt in any degree the erroneous classification of the earlier periods, of which we really know nothing, into stone, and bronze, and iron, which was made, we think very rashly, by the antiquaries of Denmark. He has done well also, we think, to close his volume with the end of the thirteenth century, because that formed a marked period of division. Previously to that time the forms and characters of arms and armour were regulated much more by the changing exigencies of mediæval warfare than in the ages subsequent, when the forms of arms and armour were varied according to individual caprice, in which they were looked upon chiefly as objects of personal ostentation, and, when, therefore, their variations present none of the regularity which we observe in their older history. The process, too, of writing the history of the two periods is essentially different; for, while the history of arms and armour during what are properly called the Middle Ages requires, above all things, a laborious search after, and investigation of, facts, that of the period extending from the close of the feudal ages to the period when arms were no longer carried but by the professional soldier, requires the exercise of discrimination and taste more, than the labours of research where facts are abundant. That Mr. Hewitt possesses the qualities required for the successful treatment of the first period is shown by the copious information which his book contains, and by its generally good classification.

The Teutonic nations, when we first became acquainted with them, fought on foot, and their weapons were simple in character and nearly uniform in shape. They consisted of a long broad sword, fitted for cutting or stabbing, a spear, and a large knife, and their missiles were javelins, arrows, and stones or bullets thrown from slings. Their principal weapon of defence was a circular wooden shield with an iron boss, but which does not appear to have had any particular ornament; and we know very little of the exact character of their helmets and of their body armour, except that the latter, from the epithets employed by the poets, appears to have been formed of some thick cloth, lined with rings of iron. The only satisfactory knowledge we have of the arms of the Pagan Teutonic period is derived from the opening of the early barrows and cemeteries, where their arms were always buried with the dead, but they appear to have been interred in the dress they wore at home in time of peace, and not in that in which they went to battle. Mr. Hewitt has illustrated this period copiously from the contents of the Anglo-Saxon and Frankish graves, and he has even obtained examples from the celebrated Faussett Collection—hitherto the least known of any, but which we hope soon to see made public in a manner far superior to that in which any other similar collection has yet been published, in the work edited by Mr. Roach Smith, and printed at the expense of Mr. Mayer, the present possessor of the Faussett Collection.

A great change took place in the military habits of the Teutonic races who settled in Gaul, when they adopted the practice of fighting on horseback, and a consequent change was gradually introduced into the character of their weapons, and this change continued gradually until the first establishment of the feudal system in the course of the tenth century. The change from the mode of fighting of the Pagan age to that of the Christian period was much less marked in our island; and, although there was, no doubt, more or less change in detail, the general forms of the weapons continued the same, and the Anglo-Saxons fought on foot by preference, even till the period of the Norman invasion; then suddenly the system of warfare, which had been long perfecting on the Continent, was imported into England, and we have here an immediate and great contrast which is not observable elsewhere. At the same time we can hardly doubt that the arms of the Christian Anglo-Saxon period, and especially of the later part of that period to which the illuminators of Anglo-Saxon manuscripts chiefly belong, differed from those of the Pagan period enough to warn us from taking too absolutely the pictorial illustrations of the one period as an illustration of the manners of the other.

A new system of weapon was required against the formidable defensive armour which came in with our Norman period, and which in general was impenetrable to sword or spear. To kill a knight fully armed, it was necessary to a certain degree to uncase him, and a new set of weapons were introduced, bearing a certain degree of analogy with pickaxes and spades, with which one warrior operated upon another somewhat in the style in which our ordinary labourers proceed to make a hole in a London pavement. The chivalry of the middle ages was thus raised quite above the common order of fighting men, and it was generally the object of one knight against another, not to kill, but to unhorse his opponent, who, once on the ground, was at his mercy, and, as a prisoner, was obliged to yield whatever sum for ransom his conqueror might want for him. If he resisted, after being dismounted, the weapons just alluded to were employed to break through his armour, and expose his body more fatally to the edge of the sword or the point of the dagger.

The system of warfare in which this heavy armour was used was extremely clumsy and unskillful, and soon became obsolete after the introduction of the practice of employing paid soldiers, and especially since guns and cannons came into general use. The wars of the fourteenth, and more especially of the fifteenth, century showed that the heavily-armed warriors now fared worst in the hour of battle; and the terrible destruction of the aristocracy in England and France during the latter of these periods decided the question of utility. From that time the use of heavy armour began to be laid aside in war, and was retained only, or at least chiefly, in tournaments and for ceremonial occasions; and it was after this change had taken place that so much labour and skill was displayed in costly decoration.

Mr. Hewitt has not entered much into the causes of the changes which took place in arms and armour during the period of which he treats; but, as we have already remarked, he has collected and classified facts with great care. The materials for his history of the Pagan Teutonic period are, as we have said, furnished almost entirely by the graves, but they are in the highest degree authentic and satisfactory. The materials for the history of arms and armour from the Pagan period to the age of Feudalism are much rarer and far less definite. After the eleventh century our materials became more abundant. The illuminations of manuscripts of every succeeding age furnish us with the forms of arms and armour; while the numerous written records, and especially the romances of chivalry, make us well acquainted with their names, materials, and uses. When we enter the thirteenth century, we encounter a new class of monuments, which are still more instructive—we mean the sepulchral effigies. These being generally of the size of life, and sculptured with the utmost truth and minuteness, give us a perfect knowledge of the subject, which we could not obtain in the previous periods.

As a collection of facts, the result of careful research and judiciously arranged, the book before us is an extremely good one. By facts we mean allusions in the mediæval writers, pictorial representations in manuscripts, and sepulchral effigies. It is a useful, and, therefore, valuable book in every antiquarian or historical library; and we hope we may be justified in saying that it is an excellent introduction to what is much wanted—a comprehensive but perfect book on the arts as applied to arms and armour in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

HERE AND THERE IN PORTUGAL. By HUGH OWEN. Bell and Daldy. The author of this little work, well known to the public as a successful photograph amateur, has, by the aid of his camera and pen, given the world a pleasant volume of travel, illustrated after his own pictures—an application of the art which is highly interesting, and certain, ere long, to become general. A somewhat familiar acquaintance with most of the writers on Portugal—from Costigan to Kinsey, from Southey to Car-narvon—enables us to observe, with pleasure, throughout Mr. Owen's descriptions a singular absence of hackneyed subjects and thrice-told tales. This writer has evidently viewed the country with an artist's eye, and proffers his statements with the confidence of a man who sketches from nature. Some well-related anecdotes of the Peninsular War prove his sources of information to have been ample, and that the story of that great struggle is not yet fully told. We had marked "the defence of Campo Mayor for extract; but want of space compels us to take a briefer passage—the writer's description of his first evening in the Tagus:—

I stayed on deck, and watched the sun sink beneath the sea, leaving on the horizon, unfretted by a single cloud, a tint so delicate and tender as to resemble the spirits only of departed colours; against which, on the right hand in the distance, the jagged edges of the heights of Cintra, with the outline of the Convent of the Penha, showed in bright and vivid purple. Below, in the foreground, the tower of Belem was brilliantly distinct, in its picturesque and Moorish beauty, against the darker sea behind; and ere the smoke of the evening sun, that sounded from its battery, had floated into air, a heavier and deeper boom called my attention to a far different, but even more beautiful, scene in the opposite direction. The light of the rising moon was just visible on the horizon, against which the masts and rigging of the ships forming the English western squadron, under Admiral Corry, were traced like lines of cobweb; above arose the thin blue smoke of the salute to the departed day that had arrested my attention. Whilst I stood in mute contemplation of this scene, the moon arose with a splendour and brilliancy that made me hold my breath with wonder and delight, as I watched her emerge from the darkened waters, now lit up with lines of molten silver. Within a few minutes the sun had set, and the short twilight was over; the unfinished Palacio d'Ajuda on the left, with the long and beautiful buildings of the Convento de San Jeronimo, and the white shining outlines of the city of Lisbon were glittering in the moonbeams; while on the right the frowning battlements of Almada were invested with a dignity that daylight and a nearer view subsequently dispelled.

At the Braganza, the first hotel in the Portuguese division of the Peninsula, and the permanent residence of the Austrian and Belgian Ministers, our traveller found his "sitting-room" papered entirely with pictures from the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. His "fancy for a while was cheated of time and distance by the sight of well-known woodcut reproductions of the works of many a personal friend—John Gilbert's 'Sancho,' Lance's 'Fruit,' the landscapes of Jutsum and Branwhite peeped out like old familiar faces," and brought pleasant suggestions of home and an increased appreciation of the art that "speaks in all languages." The following adventure with "Paddy in the Peninsula" is amusing:—

Taking a boat one morning at the Cais de Sodré to go on board a vessel lying in the Tagus, I gave the sturdy boatman a silver piece of twelve vintems—just double his fare. He assailed me with a perfect storm of rude invective, and held out his hand for a larger fee—an action that would have made his meaning clear, had I understood even less of his language—of which one opprobrious epithet, more that once applied, was sufficiently intelligible. Finding me deaf to Portuguese, and unable to reply, he changed his language to unmistakable Milesian, and vociferated, "Bad luck to ye for a poverty-struck beggar; p'raps it's all ye've got." I answered him in his own rich brogue, and he bolted, laughing at having been caught of his guard.

An incident witnessed by Mr. Owen on the banks of the Douro is interesting as illustrative of the early lessons which make the perils of future occupation familiar to the child from his cradle:—

A fisherman and his wife stood at the waterside, opposite to a deep and dangerous spot; the latter had a little child, a boy of about a year old, already habited in the costume of his future life, the little trousers tucked up above his tiny knees. She led him towards the river's brink, and wetted his little feet: he was alarmed, and clung to her with soft and affectionate caresses. Again and again she led him to the water, until the little imp, emboldened by her encouragement, ventured down alone, and, only just able to walk, tottered unsteadily to the stream. I trembled at the risk; a few feet farther and the water deepened dangerously; but no cause for fear—guided by a watchful eye, the mother's ready hand ever and again caught the little scrap of infant humanity just in time to save it, and rendered my half-uttered exclamation unnecessary. "Que esta ella fazendo?" ("What is she doing?") asked my companion of the boatman, who rested on his oars. "Esta le tirando o medo" ("She is taking the fear out of him") was the reply.

We are tempted to quote further, but must refrain. The subjects for illustration are well chosen, and the engravings neatly executed. We honestly recommend the volume as a pleasant companion to beguile the tedium of a railway journey or to occupy an evening that cannot be dull with its companionship.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION CONSIDERED IN RELATION TO THE ACT OF THE 7TH AND 8TH VICTORIA. By GEORGE COMBE. Second Edition. London: Effingham Wilson.

Those who affirm that the currency question cannot be treated in so plain a manner as to render it intelligible to the ordinary reader will find, on referring to this brochure, that Mr. Combe has achieved that difficult task. Without subscribing to every part of his reasoning, we must admit that he has presented the subject in a form so simple, and illustrated his arguments by so imposing an array of facts, as to leave very little ground for objection. The fact of a second edition having been called for is a proof that the public take a much livelier interest in the subject than they have ever done hitherto.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. G. T., Rotherham.—Your coin is a penny of Henry VI., struck at the London Mint, worth about 3s.

H. L. P., Chancery-lane.—The original of your drawing is a Persian coin, but not sufficiently fine to be valuable.

OLD THORN-TREES IN BUSHY-PARK.—A correspondent at Hampton Wick calls attention to the destruction now in progress of the fine old thorn-trees in Bushy-park, Middlesex—a park of all others the people's own. "Unless, therefore, the present wanton and wholesale destruction of the thorn-trees by the poor of the neighbourhood is stopped, in a few years Bushy-park will lose its greatest ornament, from which it takes its name. The gamekeepers are not so much to blame as those persons to whom the management of the trees in the Bushy and Home Parks, and Hampton Court Palace gardens, is intrusted." We command the poor thorns to Mr. Jesse, who, by virtue of his office (Surveyor of Parks) and his love of rural scenery, as shown in several very agreeable volumes written by him, we should consider likely to take up the case.

T. E. R., Bromsgrove.—Your coin is a rupih of British India of no numismatic value.

DECLINED.—Senex, B., Ampleforth, Mary Kate, and B. J. B., Margate.

COURCELLES.—A Nuremberg counter of the sixteenth century, extremely common, and perfectly valueless.

The Light Cavalry charge at Balaklava (Lines).—Inadmissible.

Y. N. S., Bristol.—J. M. W. Turner, the celebrated painter, was born in Maiden-lane, Covent-garden. The house is engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 540.

Memorabilia, LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND ARTISTIC.

A little chink may let in much light.—OLD PROVERB.

SHAKSPEARE READINGS.

VI.

Why in this woolish tongue should I stand here,
To beg of Hob and Dick that do appear
Their needless voyses!

Coriolanus, act ii., scene 3.

Such is the reading of the folio 1623, and a terrible puzzler that "woolish tongue" has proved to every commentator. All seem to concur in thinking it an allusion to the "gown of humility" in which, according to the custom of the Romans, *Coriolanus* is attired while standing in the market-place to solicit the voices of the people.

According to Johnson it signified the rough, *hirsute* gown. Others deny that the gown could be *rough* and *hirsute*, because it is elsewhere described as "napple."

Steevens has a long note on the subject; and suggests that Shakspeare, instead of tongue, wrote *toge*, and afterwards exchanged it for *gown*.

Malone goes into the matter at equal length, and remarks:—"The woolish (gown or) *toge* is a gown of humility, in which *Coriolanus* was shewn to appear in *masquerade*, and not in his real and natural character."

In some editions, then, we meet with "woolish gown," in others "woolish *toge*," and Mr. Collier's interpreter gives us "woolless *toge*." All, as we have said, agreeing that the word *woolish* appertains to a garment. Mr. Staunton, in his M.S. notes now before us, takes quite another view of the passage, and, conceiving that "woolish" is intended as a term of reproach for the rabble multitude, he submits that tongue is a misprint for *throng* (formerly spelt *tong*, *toung*, *tung*, and *tonge*), and proposes to read—

Why in this *woolish throng** should I stand here, &c.

* *Circumstante plecte.*

Fortifying his application of the term *woolish* to the mob by sundry extracts from writers of Shakspeare's age, of which we must be content with the following:—

I am no statue, but I must recal the Calamities of the time and the desperate condition of this Nation who seem to have fallen quite from the very faculty of Reason and to be possess'd with a pure Lycanthropy with a woolly kind of disposition to tear one another in this manner, insomuch that if ever the old saying was verified, "*Homo homini lupus*," it is certainly now. I conclude with the Distich

"They cry, who write, no Wolves in England range
Here men are all turn'd Wolves, O, monstrous change!"

Howell's Letters, pp. 297-98.

In "Lust's Dominion," the Moor, speaking of the "beast multitude," calls it "this wolf." In the "Maid of Honour," we have

"Not an act
For wolfish man."

And in Ben Jonson's "Poetaster," Horace, speaking of the followers of *Lupus*, calls them his "wolfish train."

VII.

Of the inability of a certain "old corrector" to appreciate the language of Shakspeare's day the annotated folio exhibits abundant evidence. The following is an amusing instance:—

In the Second Part of "Henry IV," act iv, sc. 1, *Westmoreland* is reproving the *Archbishop of York* for his share in the rebellion, and says:—

You, lord Archbishop,

Whose see is by a civil peace maintain'd;
Whose beard the silver hand of peace hath touch'd;
Whose white investments figure innocence
The dove and very blessed spirit of peace,—
Therefore do you so ill translate yourself
Out of the speech of peace, that bears such grace
Into the harsh and boist'rous tongue of war?
Turning your books to graves, your ink to blood,
Your pens to lances, and your tongue divine
To a loud trumpet, and a point of war."

The word *graves* was a stumbling-block of old to the commentators, and, notwithstanding Steevens' suggestion of *greaves* (leather leggings or armour, to which the binding of ancient books might well be turned), Warburton's inappropriate reading of *glaives* has been adopted by some editors, and the old word *graves*, literally as burial-places, by others! Mr. Staunton shows by quotations, of which we need give but one, that Steevens' interpretation is correct, but that the old word *graves* for *greaves* should be retained, as that was the mode of spelling it in Shakspeare's time—

The tuishes, cuishes, and the graves, &c. Albion's "England," b. xii., c. lxx.

Till the appearance of the Perkins folio "Emendations," we are not aware, however, that the expression "a point of war" was ever made a subject of dispute. There, not only do we find the Warburton absurdity of *glaives*, but a still more monstrous perversion of the text—

Turning your books to *glaives*, your ink to blood,

Your pens to lances, and your tongue divine

To a loud trumpet and *report of war*.

And this is endorsed approvingly by Mr. Collier; and even Mr. Singer proposes we should read:—

To a loud trumpet and a *bruit of war*

Mr. Knight adheres to the old reading, because it is the old reading, but is evidently unaware of the use of the phrase by the old writers.

Our author here, as in other cases, sets the matter at rest finally by a string of quotations which nothing can resist. We give only two or three:—

To play him hunts up with a *point of war*.

R. Greene's "Orlando Furioso." *Dyce's Edition*, p. 19.

Sound proudly here a perfect *point of war*.

George Peele's "Edward I." 1593. Scene 1.

He shows that the expression was in use even so late as the beginning of the eighteenth century, and cites a passage from a charming paper of Steele's in the *Tatler*, commencing:—"We were alarmed with the noise of a drum, and immediately entered my little godson, to give me a *point of war*."

NOTES.

MIDWIVES' MAGIC.—A very singular belief prevailed not many years ago in these parts (about Langholme, in Scotland); nothing less than that the midwives had power of transferring part of the primeval curse bestowed on our great first mother from the good wife to her husband. I saw the reputed offspring of such a labour, who kindly came into the world without giving her mother the least uneasiness, while the poor husband was roaring with agony in his uncouth and unnatural pains.—Pennant's "Hebrides."

NOBLE REPLY OF ALLEYN, FOUNDER OF DULWICH COLLEGE, TO ONE WHO TAUNTED HIM WITH BEING A PLAYER.—Sir Francis Calton, who had foolishly squandered the property left to him by his father, once taunted Alleyn with having been a player. To this Alleyn replied:—"And where you tell me of my poor original and of my quality as a player. What is that? If I am richer than my ancestors, I hope I may be able to do more good with my riches than ever your ancestors did with their riches. You must now bear poverty, and if you bear it more patiently than I, your desert will be the greater. That I was a player I can not deny, and I am sure I will not. My means of living were honest, and, with the poor ability where-with god blest me, I was able to do something for myself, my relatives and my friends, many of them now living at this day will not refuse to owe what they owe me. Therefore I am not ashamed."—PETERS.

DULWICH COLLEGE.—Alleyn, the founder, was born on September the 1st, 1566, and died on November the 25th, 1626; being thus a little more than sixty years of age. His last will is dated on the 13th of November, 1626. He began the building of Dulwich College in the summer of 1613, under the direction of Inigo Jones, and he finished it on the 13th of September, 1619, on which day it was solemnly dedicated, and the completion of the great work was celebrated by a banquet. To use his own words from his Diary, "They first heard a sermon, and after the Instrument of Creation was by me read, and after an Anthem they went to dinner." Inigo Jones was present on the occasion, with many other notabilities. The banquet cost £20 9s. 2d., more than £100 of our money at its present value. A list of the viands is to be found in Lyson's "Environs of London:" the prayers and ceremonies used at the dedication may be seen in Wilkins' "Concilia." The deed of foundation of Dulwich, or, as Alleyn termed it, God's Gift College, which was enrolled on the 15th of May, 1619, bears date on the 13th of April preceding, and the patent on the 21st of June, though Alleyn did not get possession of it till the 16th of July.

ANCIENT INK.—The receipt for making ink contributed by Mr. Rimbault is given in "Gray's Supplement to the *Pharmacopœia*," page 322:—

Uncia sit gallæ, semisque
Sit uncia gummi,
Vitrioli pars quarta:
Bis addas ovo Falerni.*

JAS. LOWE.

* A muscadine wine, no doubt containing tartar, and consequently a mordant.

THE ORIGIN OF SOME COMMON PHRASES.—The meaning generally attached to each of the following phrases is very well known. Can any of your readers tell me how they came to bear that meaning, and at what period?—"He does not cotton with them." "He is half seas over." "He gave him something to boot." "They ran off helter shelter." "She went on a sleeveless errand." "He shamed Abraham." "I just saved my bacon." "They went at it hammer and tongs." "How much will he cut up for?" "I got it dog cheap." "He was quite on his high ropes." "He was in the suds." "Lack-a-daisy!" "I shall call you over the coals." "I made him eat humble pie." "He was as drunk as a wheelbarrow." "She kicked the bucket." "I am as right as a trivet." "I will put a spoke in his wheel." "She was as fine as fivepence." "He wants to curry favour with you." "I turned a cold shoulder upon him."—SCRUTATOR.

"**I WISH YOU HAD, MRS. CRUMP.**"—This saying was formerly very prevalent in Gloucestershire, in answer to a wish for anything, and implied that you must not expect any assistance from the speaker. Grose says that it originated thus:—One Mrs. Crump, the wife of a substantial farmer, dining with old Lady Coventry, who was exceedingly deaf, said to one of the footmen waiting at table, "I wish I had a draught of small beer," her modesty not permitting her to desire so very fine a gentleman to bring it; the fellow, conscious that his mistress, Lady Coventry, could not hear either the request or the answer, coolly replied, without moving, "I wish you had, Mrs. Crump." These wishes being again repeated by both parties, Mrs. Crump got up from the table to fetch the small beer herself, and, being asked by Lady Coventry where she was going, related what had passed. The story being told abroad, "I wish you had, Mrs. Crump," became a proverbial expression.

QUERIES.

BANBURY APES.—I shall be obliged if any one will kindly furnish me with a key to the following political pamphlet, "The Banbury Apes; or, the Monkeys Chattering to the Magpie." In a Letter to a Friend in London. The Fourth Edition, corrected. London: Printed, and are to be sold by R. Mawson. Price one penny." It consists of four leaves, and has a very rude woodcut of a procession of men, women, and apes. What does it mean? and why is the scene laid at Banbury?—DUNSTAN.

ALWAYS SLEEP WITH YOUR HEAD TO THE NORTH.—Is this an old superstition, or a modern truism? If the former, whence and how derived? if the latter, the plain reason?—W. RICHARDSON.

LAWLESS COURT.—In "A Guide to all the Watering and Seabathing Places," published by Phillips in 1806, at p. 386, under the head of "Rochford," I find the following paragraph:—"On an eminence near this town, called Kingshill, the lord of the manor of Raylegh, a place about seven miles off, holds a court on the Wednesday morning after Michaelmas, at cock-crowing. This is called Lawless Court. The steward and suitors are obliged to whisper to each other, and are not allowed either fire or candle. A piece of coal supplies the place of pen and ink; and he who owes service to the court and fails in his attendance forfeits double his rent for every hour's absence. It is said that this attendance was originally imposed on the tenants as a punishment for their having met, at that early hour, in a conspiracy against their lord." Can you or any of your numerous readers inform me who was the lord of the manor conspired against, the nature of the conspiracy, in what year it happened, and if the absurd custom is still extant?—EDWIN J. WHITE, Highbury-vale.

SHAKSPEARE QUERIES.—Can any of your correspondents inform me who has the MS. notes on some obscure passages in Shakspeare by the late Mr. Barron Field? A few only were published among the "Shakspeare Society's papers." From this sample I should infer that the residue deserve to be made public. Are they likely to be so? I am the possessor of a quarto edition of "Hamlet," dated 1676. No such edition is mentioned in Mr. Halliwell's "Catalogue of Editions of Hamlet." Are copies of this edition scarce? Why does Mr. Collier, in his editions of "Hamlet," ignore the quarto of 1609? I have never seen a copy. Where is one to be found?—C. MANSFIELD INGLEBY.

THE AFFIX "LEY."—Could any of your correspondents inform me of the meaning of the termination *ley* in names of places? I should be glad to know also whether the derivation of *wich* and of *worth* is not open to dispute.—P. D. E., North Shields.

[Among terminations to names of places *ley*—variously written *leah*, *lega*, *lega*, and *ley*—means a field, place, or ley; *wich* means a dwelling-place, habitation, or village (Latin *vicus*, Saxon *wic*); *worth* means a farm, public way, street, or hall. There is no doubt or obscurity about either.]

ANSWERS.

DUKE SCHOMBERG'S BURIAL PLACE.—Allow me to draw your attention to an error in your "Memorabilia" of the 9th ultimo in B. Blundell's Commentary on "Mr. Macaulay and his Critics," to the effect that Marshal Schomberg was interred in the Cathedral of St. Patrick's, Dublin; which is not according to the fact, as Schomberg was buried in Christ Church, Dublin—which fact of his having been interred there appears from the ancient inscription on the monument erected to his memory in the aisle of that Church.—H. A.

GODFREY MEDALS.—In the mistaken and erroneous quotation, "eqno credite Tucri," may, perhaps, be found a clue to the mystery of the murder. The words in Virgil are "Equo ne credite Tucri"—Trust not the horse, &c. If the words of the poet were, at the time of the event, used as applicable to the case of Godfrey's death, it may have been that he was in some manner inveigled on horseback, and then murdered. The legend on the edge of the medal may apply to the mode of his death—"Cervice fracta, fidem sustulet." He may have been strangled, or hung, as an alternative by his murderers for falsifying the confession, &c. If the first medal is much worn the "ne" may be obliterated; and the final letters on the two medals referred to are reversed—*XNS, SNX*.—SPES.

DENTISTS OF OLD.—The following quotation from Nares may serve as a reply to your correspondent B. M.:—"A tooth-drawer was frequently called kind-heart. It seems that they had a particular costume, at least in the reign of Elizabeth; for in Bond's "Sketches of East and West Looe," p. 281, is the following passage:—"In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a fellow who wore his hat buttoned up on one side, and a feather therein like a tooth-drawer, with the rose and crown on his breast for a badge, had obtained a license from the Lord Chamberlain to make a show of a great ape about the country," &c.

THE WORD "BULLY."—Is it not possible that this word takes its derivation from the instrument mentioned in the following passage of M. Victor Hugo's novel of "Notre Dame de Paris"?—"Il portait à la main un de ces fous à lanières de cuir blanc dont se servaient alors les sergents à verger pour rentrer la foule et que l'on appelaient *bouillages*?"—QUASIMODO.

[An ingenious suggestion; but is there any trace of the word in French usage?]

THE HARMONIOUS BLACKSMITH.—In reply to the query in your paper of the 23rd ult., as to the origin of Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith," I beg to inform your correspondent that, passing through Edgware about a year ago, I discovered a board over a Blacksmith's forge, with an inscription to the effect that Handel, when in this country, took shelter one day from a storm in that forge, and, hearing the bells of the village church chiming and the blacksmith's hammer mingling its beatings therewith, composed from that circumstance the piece so named.—A. F. FEA.

MRS. PIOZZI AND HER FAMILY.—Observing in your paper a mistake in allusion to Mrs. Thrale's second marriage, viz., "that her daughters would never see their mother after that event," I beg leave to state that her youngest daughter was with her and Mr. Piozzi at Edinburgh, and frequently visited my father's house, to whom they had letters of introduction; the young lady was then thirteen or fourteen years of age, and I think her name was Cecilia. I am now in my eightieth year, and quite certain of this fact. Should Mr. H. Grey require my name, it is quite at his service.—H. K.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.—Sir Francis Drake was born, 1546, on the banks of the Tavy, in Devonshire; and brought up in Kent. Early in Queen Elizabeth's reign, when his father was Vicar of Upnor, Francis was an apprentice on board of a barque that plied occasionally to Zealand and France. On one of the latter voyages he may have touched at Jersey.—MACKENZIE WALCOTT, M.A.

SOLEMNITY OF MARRIAGE.—In the Act 26 Geo. II., c. xxxiii., the words run thus:—"All Bans of Matrimony shall be published in an audible manner in the Parish Church . . . upon three Sundays preceding the solemnization of marriage, during the time of Morning Service, or of Evening Service (if there be no Morning Service in such Church or Chapel upon any of those Sundays), immediately after the Second, Lesson."—Statutes at Large, vol. vii., p. 525. So they stand in Act 4 Geo. IV., c. 76, s. 1.—MACKENZIE WALCOTT, M.A.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
E. WILSON.—*Tester, or Teston.*—This query was answered by two or three correspondents, and we cannot afford space at present for any further discussion on the subject. Thanks, nevertheless, for your interesting communication.
W. R.—*Yankee Doodle.*—The tune you have sent is not "Yankee Doodle"; and you are certainly mistaken in supposing that the old carol "There were three ships," and the negro song, "Buffalo girls, come out to-night" are the same tune.
JNO. COULSON.—*Swearing on the Testament.*—Your reference, unfortunately, does not answer our correspondent's query.
Temple-Bar.—The querist on this subject gives neither name, address, nor signature of any description.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SIGMA.—The non-publication of the late Consultation Games in the paper mentioned occasions no surprise.

L. M., Highbury.—Neither Problem referred to can be solved as you suggest. Look again, and ask some friendly player to explain what is required.

EDWIN B.—There is no essential difference between a Chess Problem and a Chess Enigma.

C. M., Spa.—You are mistaken. The Solution we gave of Problem No. 626 is unimpeachable.

J. A., Birmingham.—We believe it may be solved in a fewer moves than

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